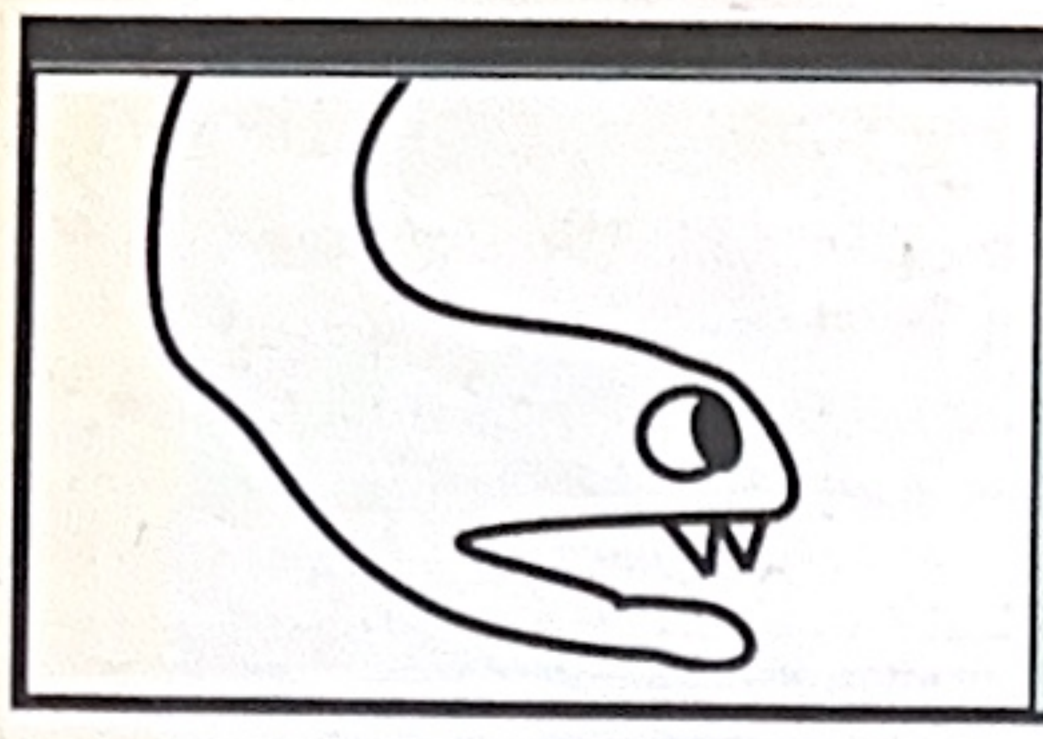
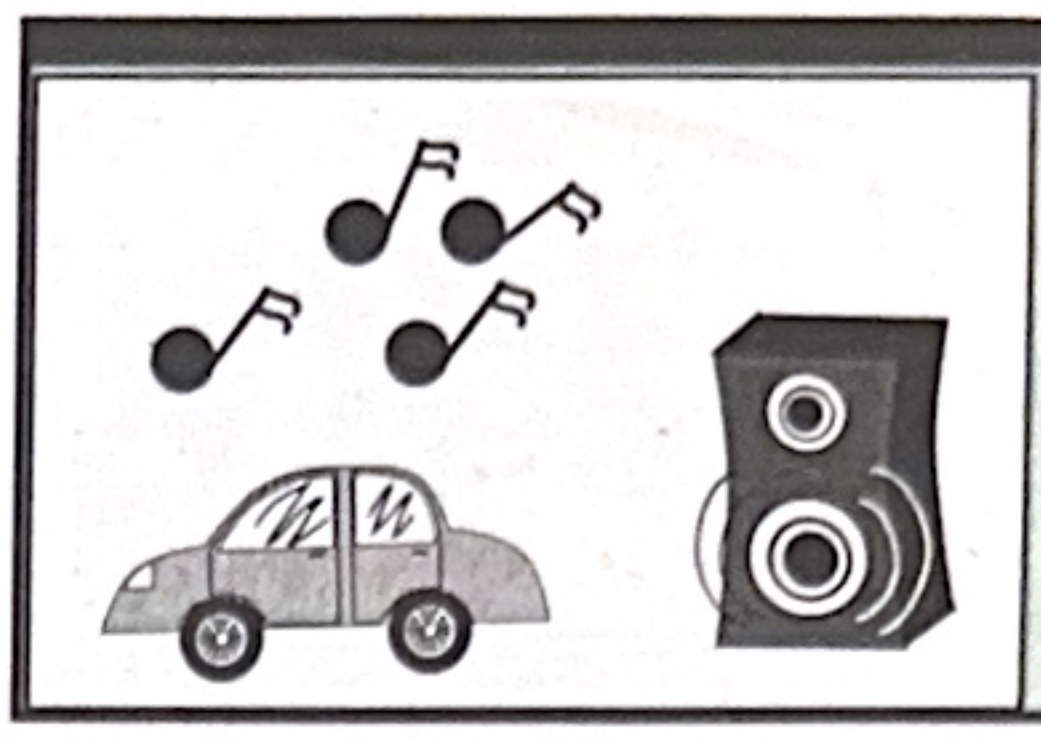


Green with envy

Jealousy lurks in the halls of the school

pages 8-9



Pump up the volume

Check out the facts about car stereos

page 7

VOLUME 66 · ISSUE 3
DECEMBER 12, 1995

SHAKERITE

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL · 15911 ALDERSYDE DRIVE · SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

What a year!

"Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a Jewish Israeli nationalist. It made me feel less safe, and it scared me that it was a Jew who killed him. It also educated me because I didn't know there were many Jewish right wing groups."

-Evan Walsh

"Michael Jordan came back to basketball. I was happy because, before that I lost interest in basketball. Now that he's back I can enjoy basketball again."

-Jason Williams

"The Browns moving from Cleveland makes me angry because I've been a life long Browns fan."

-Amy Libman

ROCK OUT. The Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame opened in Cleveland in September. It is one of the many improvements made in the city this year.

Shakerite photo courtesy of John Williams

"The problems with the Ebola virus is a significant event in '95 because it shows how vulnerable people are."

-Owen Maresh

"The Indians hadn't [been in] the World Series in 41 years. [Their winning] brought a lot of publicity and it gave Cleveland people something to do and get excited about."

-Jonathan Robertson & Dontil Patterson

1995

Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame   Oklahoma City Bombing   Indians go to World Series   Browns go to Baltimore   Rabin assassinated   divorce legalized in Ireland   peace in Bosnia   O.J. verdict   Turner Broadcasting merges with Time Warner   Cavs trade Mark Price and Hot Rod Williams   Atlantis connects to Soviet spacecraft   Hurricane Marilyn   Gingrich tries Contract with America   Perot tries to start a third party   France's nuclear testing   Boris Yeltsin has a heart attack   Quebec tries to separate from Canada   Windows '95 from Microsoft   Selena is murdered   UCLA wins NCAA Tournament   Snoop Doggy Dogg on trial   Michael Jordan returns to basketball   Beijing Women's Conference   Unabomber makes a comeback   Princess Diana reveals everything   Jacques Chirac elected   Ebola disease hits Africa   Forrest Gump wins best movie   Sergei Grinkov dies of heart attack   Cal Ripken breaks record for consecutive games played   Mickey Mantle dies   Million Man March   Colin Powell decides not to run for president   Jerry Garcia dies   Beatles make a comeback   50th anniversary of Auschwitz closing   O'Grady survives in Bosnia   Full House ends   government shutdown   balanced budget   Miami University students trapped in Alps   NYPD Blue wins best drama   Frasier wins best comedy   Typhoon Angela   San Francisco wins Super Bowl   Atlanta wins World Series   Bob Dole   Bob Packwood resigns   Medicaid/Medicare reforms   3000th anniversary of Jerusalem   George Magazine started by JFK, Jr.   Christopher Reeve hurt   peace attempts in the Middle East   Easy E dies   50th anniversary of end of World War II   subway fire

"I'm glad Colin Powell decided not to run, not because I feel he's not qualified to be president, but because if he were president he would experience a lot of pressures that would make his job too overwhelming."

-Raushonda Gadson

"The Million Man March was important because it was a step for the African-American male society."

-Angela Newman

GO TRIBE! Slider pumps up the crowd at an Indians game. The team brought a great deal of pride to Cleveland this year.

Shakerite photo courtesy of Bob Dery

"Even when the Indians would never win a game, I would always sit in front of the TV as a loyal fan. When they finally got somewhere, it was payback for all the games I watched that they lost."

-Terra Winston

"The Million Man March [was important] because it brought all the black men together."

-Carmella Kelly

"I think O.J. was guilty, and I think it tells women who are abused that they can't take [their cases] any further in the system."

-Jim Robenalt

Shakerite quotes compiled by Debbie Libman and Seema Shah

Departments participate in contests and events:

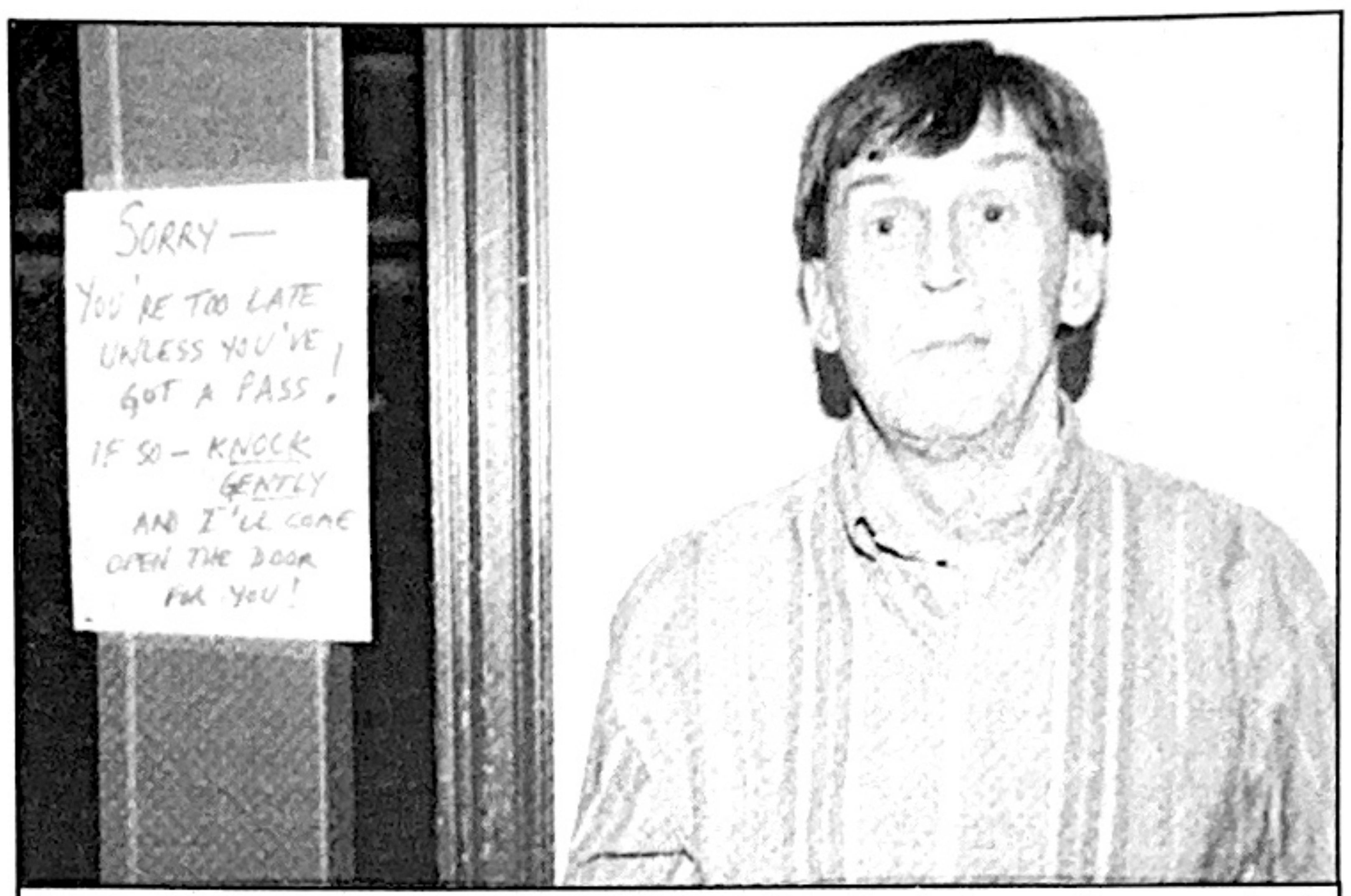
English: Competitions include the NCTE Writing Awards and the Scholastic Writing Awards.
History: National History Day's topic this year is "Taking a Stand." History Day is in March.
Science: Contests include the Junior Engineering Contest and International Physics Olympics.
Math: The Math League, open to all students, meets Tuesdays and competes once a month.

-compiled by Sarah Bania-Dobyns

Tardy detention rates soar:

New school policies, student irresponsibility increase tardies

BY TOBY BULLOFF
Staff Reporter


SORRY —
YOU'RE TOO LATE UNLESS YOU'VE GOT A PASS!
IF SO - KNOCK GENTLY AND I'LL COME OPEN THE DOOR FOR YOU!

BEING LATE MAKES A DATE WITH HOGUE. Tardy dentention supervisor and math teacher Dennis Hogue stands in front of the tardy detention room. He is waiting for those late to their tardy detentions.

Shakerite photo by Cristen Means

Tardy detention and suspension assignments have doubled since last year and, despite new punishments, these numbers are rising, according to tardy detention supervisor Dennis Hogue.

In an average week there are 323 detentions and 45 suspensions, Hogue said. After three tardies in one class, a detention is automatically assigned.

The tardy detention rates have increased partially due to the new computerized attendance system, Hogue said. Last year, only about 60 percent of teachers participated in assigning detentions, according to Hogue. This year there is 100 percent participation by teachers.

English teacher Cathy Caswell noted there were not as many recorded detentions last year because it was the teacher's responsibility to fill out detention forms appropriately. Students are suspended if they fail to attend detentions after school, which are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Junior Jon Becker says tardies are too easy to obtain, and the current punishment could be modified

"With the high population in our school and the short time we have to get from spot A to spot B, [the current policy] is very demanding, and it is therefore easy to get tardies. We should get rid of tardy detentions. If you're late to class, then your teacher should just not let you in. It's an unexcused absence unless you have a pass," Becker said. "Because [tardy detentions] are not serious enough punishments, students will commit the offense again and not even worry about the consequences."

Hogue said he also feels the four minutes between classes is inadequate time to get to class.

Sophomore Conor Davitt said he agrees with Hogue.

"The four-minute break between classes might be part of [the problem.] Make the between-class time longer by a minute, and there will not be as many detentions," Davitt said.

Twelfth Grade Assistant Principal Randall Yates could not defend the number of tardies and said he was especially distressed about the number of freshmen detentions the third week of November. There was a record high number of tardies translating into one out of every four freshmen sitting in detention.

"Freshmen haven't figured it out yet. They want to be treated like adults, but adults would figure out pretty quickly that there's absolutely nothing worth talking about in the halls that's worth 1½ hours after school," Yates said.

Hogue attributed 30 percent of tardy detentions to students late for first period. He says lack of transportation to school adds greatly to the tardy problem

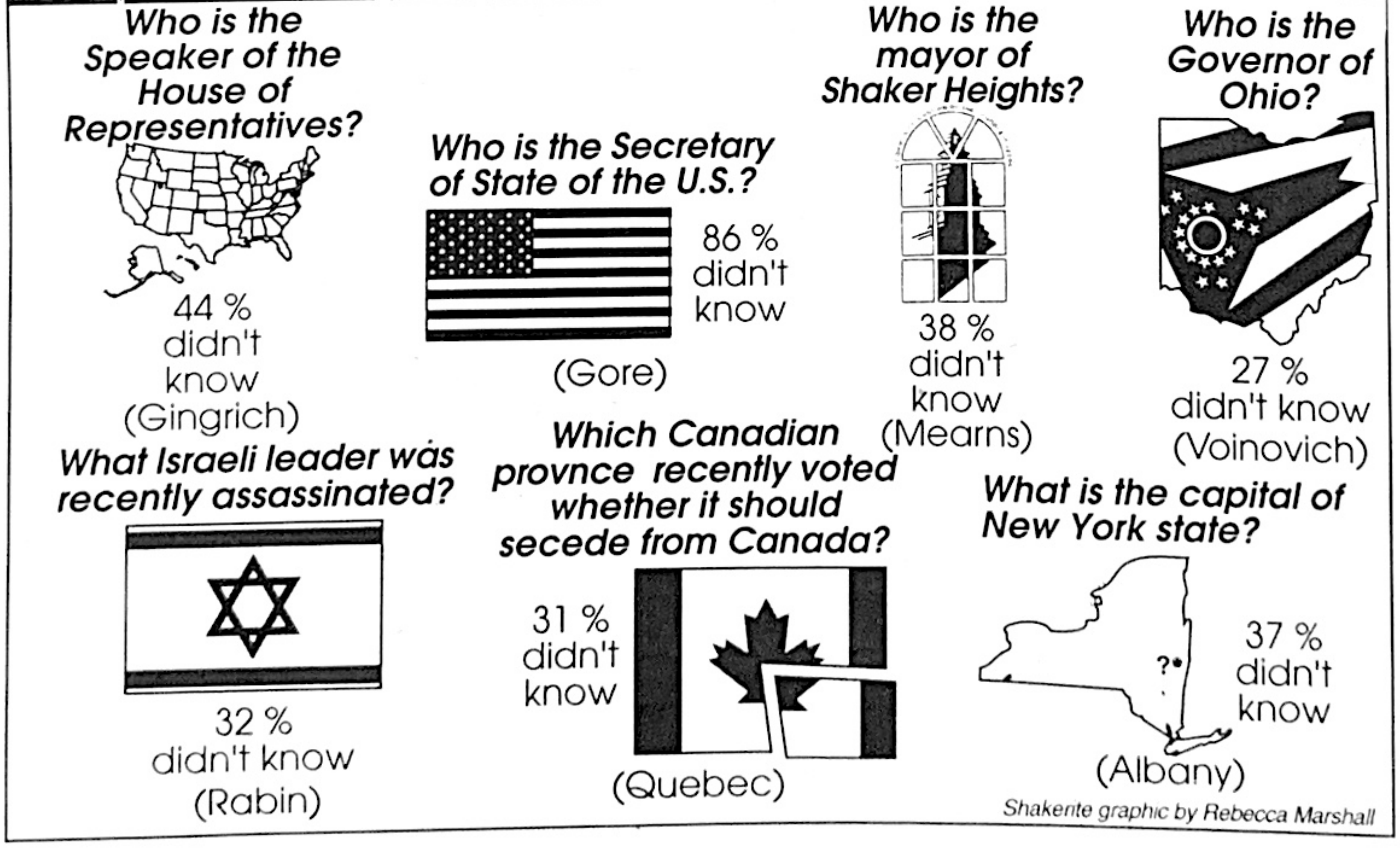
CBE class member Tiffany Chapman suggested sending boxes of food to the City Mission for Thanksgiving. The unit principals allowed two cans of food for the shelter to erase a detention. This method raised over four boxes for the needy. The unit principals are now looking into future alternatives to detentions.

Junior Sarah Abbott suggested excessively tardy students should go on contract for sports and clubs or clean the cafeteria. Sophomore Hillary Jacqmin agreed.

Hogue says new punishments might work for some students, but there are at least 100 students who continue to receive detentions without learning the consequences of tardiness.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR CURRENT EVENTS?

176 students were asked 7 questions.
The percentage of incorrect responses are as follows:



Who is the Speaker of the House of Representatives?
44 % didn't know
(Gingrich)

Who is the Secretary of State of the U.S.?
86 % didn't know
(Gore)

Who is the mayor of Shaker Heights?
38 % didn't know
(Mearns)

Who is the Governor of Ohio?
27 % didn't know
(Voinovich)

What Israeli leader was recently assassinated?
32 % didn't know
(Rabin)

Which Canadian provnce recently voted whether it should secede from Canada?
31 % didn't know
(Quebec)

What is the capital of New York state?
37 % didn't know
(Albany)

Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall

NEWS BRIEFS

Student Council pursues changes

Student Council continues its task to improve the school. The following issues top each committee's agendas:

Policy Committee:
- Announcing which classes have flex nights on the P.A. daily
- Passed out surveys in homreroom concerning parking and teachers who do not follow flex night
- Trying to receive permission for the use of the small lockers in the boys' locker room
- Long term issues being discussed include a policy that would exempt students who have an "A" in a class from having to take the final for that class and the parking problem.

Communications Committee:
- Putting suggestion boxes around school and the bulletin board in the cafeteria
- Passing out monthly surveys in homeroom to find out what teachers and students want

Community Committee:
- Planning a more efficient recycling program
- Planning a community day in spring with a festival including food, sports and people from the community
- Devising ways to raise money for the homeless, fundraisers for charities and food drives

Spirit and Events Committee:
- Planning a proposal for a fashion and talent show to be held in late February or early March

-Emily Goetz

OXFAM fights poverty

The Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (OXFAM) focuses on poverty and hunger issues internationally. OXFAM U.S. Program Director Hubert Sapp encouraged students to become involved in their community at an assembly on Nov. 16.

"Do you want to live in a society where one out of three of your neighbors is in poverty? Please be committed before it is too late," Sapp said.

Freshman Jessica Fenholt said the speaker motivated her to become more involved within her communtiy.

When Sapp was younger, he was involved with the Civil Rights movement, which motivated him to become involved with poverty issues.

OXFAM began almost 55 years ago in England. Today there are nine separations in Belgium, England, the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, America, Canada and Quebec.

OXFAM projects include using drought resistant plans in Africa, addressing the issue of poor women and children in India and preventive shelters for typhoons in Bangladesh.

The American OXFAM division began in 1992 due to rising figures in hunger and poverty.

"We were apalled by [the figures] given to us. Here we are the richest nation in the world with increasing hunger and poverty," Sapp said.

History teacher Terry Pollack agreed with Sapp.

"The infant mortality rates in Cleveland are equal to those in the Third World," Pollack said.

Human Relations and Oppression students closed the assembly by holding lit candles and performing as poverty-stricken children.

-Sarah Bania-Dobyns

New School Board members begin work on goals to improve schools

BY NAWAL ATWAN
News Editor

Newly elected School Board members Nancy Moore and Freda Levenson begin their quest to address school achievement, attain financial stability and open communication throughout the community.

The two women were elected from four candidates Nov. 7 for a four year term. They join School Board members Rev. Marvin McMickle, Thomas Moss and Judy Stenta, who have each served two years. Moore and Levenson both say they hope to add insight and work with the other board members to solve school problems.

Moore says her major goal is to open communication with administration, staff, parents and students to help advance the school system. Her plans include welcoming more of the community to School Board meetings and having the board participate in more school staff meetings and activities.

"In the past, the board has been a removed presence in the schools. I hope to break new ground and remove the insulation surrounding the board," Moore said.

Moore also hopes to form more School Board sessions. She said the traditional monthly meetings do not provide adequate communication among School Board members. Her ideas include more School Board work sessions and an achievement working committee.

Levenson said the community needs to restore a sense of trust with the school system. Levenson said although the budget needs to be stable, the major goal for the school board is attaining maximum student achievement. She said she feels lower achieving students have been neglected.

Levenson and Moore also plan to help oversee the budget carefully to maximize the use of resources in the schools.

"We have received a mandate from the public as a result of our election to wisely allocate school funds and justify the decisions made with the funds," Moore said.

The School Board attended the first meeting in history with City Council on Nov. 27. The two groups resolved to meet three to four times a year to work toward bettering the community.

The joint School Board and city council group finalized the decision for the city to pay the schools for the use of recreational facilities at $2O per hour. Previously, the city used these facilities for free. Also, they discussed a tentative plan to build a joint school-city gym which could be used for varsity sports, Levenson said.

Other issues between the city and school board include computer hook ups within the community, technology and economic advancement.

"It is important for the School Board and city to work together to promote education, although they are two separate government entities," Levenson said.

Neville wins award

Junior Lisa Neville earned first place in the high school division in the national Insight Art Competition this fall for her sculpture entitled "Roller Coaster."

The competition, sponsored by the American Printing House for the Blind, honors visually impaired and disabled students for their artwork. Neville suffered from a brain tumor which caused her disability.

"The staff in the art department [Susan Weiner] has been most encouraging of Lisa's ability and skills in expressing herself. It is always exciting to see a student succeed after working so hard on a project," Maureen Carroll, Lisa's assistant, said.

Over 340 entries were submitted and only nine artists received first place in nine separate age categories.

Neville's sculpture will be exhibited at the Kentucky State Fair and will be printed in an Insights Art Calendar.

Neville found an interest in art when she was a freshman. She has taken several art classes since. Neville says she plans to continue creating artwork in college and hopes to display it.

-Emily Joseph

Flex night: policy, privilege or problem?

BY SARAH LEVIN
Staff Reporter

Shakerite artwork by Ben Greenspan

"Ahh, flex night," you think during math class on a Tuesday afternoon. But wait, what's that your teacher is doing? Could it be– no, of course not– assigning homework?!

This year flex night has become a bigger issue than ever due to student complaints and the newly instituted student government.

According to sophomore student council representative Melissa Williams, a great deal has been done to instill flex night.

"We've been trying very hard to enforce flex night this year. We've made announcements to remind teachers about it, and we've given the students a way to voice their opinions," Williams said.

Students feel they deserve flex night because it is important to have a night off from each subject to concentrate on other subjects and activities.

"Most of my teachers stick to flex night. It's important because it lets us work on other homework that may take more time," junior Elena Casal said. "Not everyone has a lot of time to do homework. I think it is more of an issue now than in previous years because many time conflicts arise for students."

Junior Tempe Hubbard agreed with Casal that flex night is important, but she does not recognize all of her teachers sticking to the rules.

"My teachers sometimes stick to flex night but more now than ever because it has become a bigger deal. Last year it was never enforced," Hubbard said. "[Flex night] helps because I have so much homework. It should be a school rule that teachers have to stick to it, and if they don't, the homework shouldn't have to be turned in."

Although it may not seem so to students, several teachers do believe in honoring flex night.

"I believe in having a flex night because it gives the students a break from each major class one night," history teacher Tod Torrence said.

Math teacher Alan Siebert said, although he does not stick directly to the Tuesday night flex night, he does give his students plenty of time to finish assignments and gives the due dates well in advance.

"If our intent is to get students ready for college, they need to have the responsibility to budget their time. I don't collect homework daily, but I notify the students as to when it will be due in advance," Siebert said. "It's up to the students to create their own flex night."

Principal A. Jack Rumbaugh said flex night has been in existence at Shaker for a long time, and teachers are expected to stick to it.

"Flex night has been a longstanding protocol at [SHHS]. We expect teachers to honor it. It has been more of an issue this year because we've had some failure to respect the schedule. Some Student Council members were sensitive to this problem. Anything that brings it to our attention is good. We have flex night to try and minimize the stress put on students," Rumbaugh said.

According to the school handbook, Monday night is history flex night, Tuesday is math, Wednesday is English, Thursday is foreign language and Friday is science.

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The Shakerite Wishes You
A Relaxing Winter Break
and A Happy New Year

Shaker Heights Teachers' Association
SHTA
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Educating Shaker's Youth

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IF YOU THINK YOU'RE SHARP ENOUGH TO HANDLE THE CHALLENGE OF BECOMING A UNITED STATES MARINE, MAYBE YOU CAN BE ONE OF US. IT WON'T BE EASY. BUT BEING ONE OF THE BEST NEVER IS.
CALL 1-800-MARINES

This issue of the Shakerite has been brought to you
by the letters "T" and "M" and by the number "3".

Top zillion reasons Cleveland winters suck: too much snow, slush, no more Browns, the Rapid comes late, fourteen degrees below zero, even less sun than usual, boring weather reports (snow, more snow, sleet, freezing rain, snow again), we come to school when every other school in a forty-mile radius has a snow day, yellow snow, running noses, stalling cars, slippery roads, missing digits (fingers, toes, heads), big slow salt trucks blocking the road, bundling up (long underwear, two pairs of wool socks...), frozen pets, blackouts, tuning problems, finals, walking to school becomes an epic adventure, new drivers, old drivers, losing dropped change until spring, missing children, squalls, blizzards, wind chill factors of thirty-six below, ice-cream is hot...

Hall monitors fail to respect students

THE RITE IDEA

The words "Do you have a pass?" do not evoke emotion in the hearts of many people, but as hall monitors repeat the question over and over again, the words have begun to incite anger and frustration.

It has become a great adventure at our school to simply find an unobstructed path to our lockers, as the security in the hallways during class periods has been advanced to the level of some maximum security prisons. It is virtually impossible to just get a drink or to go to the bathroom, two exercises that are essential to our lives as humans.

Granted, hall monitors are there because people can be loud and distracting while in the hallway, but the students responsible for the disturbance should be the only people disciplined. Students can be walking silently through the halls on their way to their locker or to a conference with a teacher, yet these people are stopped and told to leave the building.

Why are these silent students stopped and told to leave? The question is unanswerable because no real reason exists. Silent teachers are able to walk through the hallways unaccosted, creating the same distraction as a student. Teachers are often more distracting, because they are allowed to talk to whomever they choose and their travel through the halls is unlimited.

An English teacher made the point that students, like teachers, have a destination in mind when they are walking through the halls. Students do not walk through the hallways with the intention of disrupting classes. When disruption does occur, hall monitors have the right to stop students, but non-disruptive students should not be punished for the actions of a few unruly ones.

One of the problems with the halls is that groups of people will occasionally congregate after the bell has rung. Often times groups of students tend to make more noise than necessary. Obviously, there is a need for hall monitors in this situation, because such groups cause unneeded distractions. On the other hand, groups that are walking through the halls without causing any distraction should not be stopped.

The above procedures are basic common sense. If people are noisy, they should be sent back to class or outside. If the students are being quiet, they are breaking no rules and should not be reprimanded. If someone gets angry with students every time they are respectful and quiet, there is definitely something wrong with the system.

There is an easy, innovative way to deal with the problem of students in the hallways. If you are loud, you leave the hall. If you respect the students and teachers that have classes, you get to stay. Students can get where they are going without undue harassment by hall monitors and security guards, teachers can teach without worrying about noise from the hallways and security guards can focus on more important problems.

CHEERS & JEERS

Jeers to Art Modell. We want our Browns!

Cheers to treasure hunting in the courtyard.

Jeers to egg nog. What's in it, anyway?

Cheers to winter sports, including, but not limited to, snowball wars, snowblower wars and snowmobile wars.

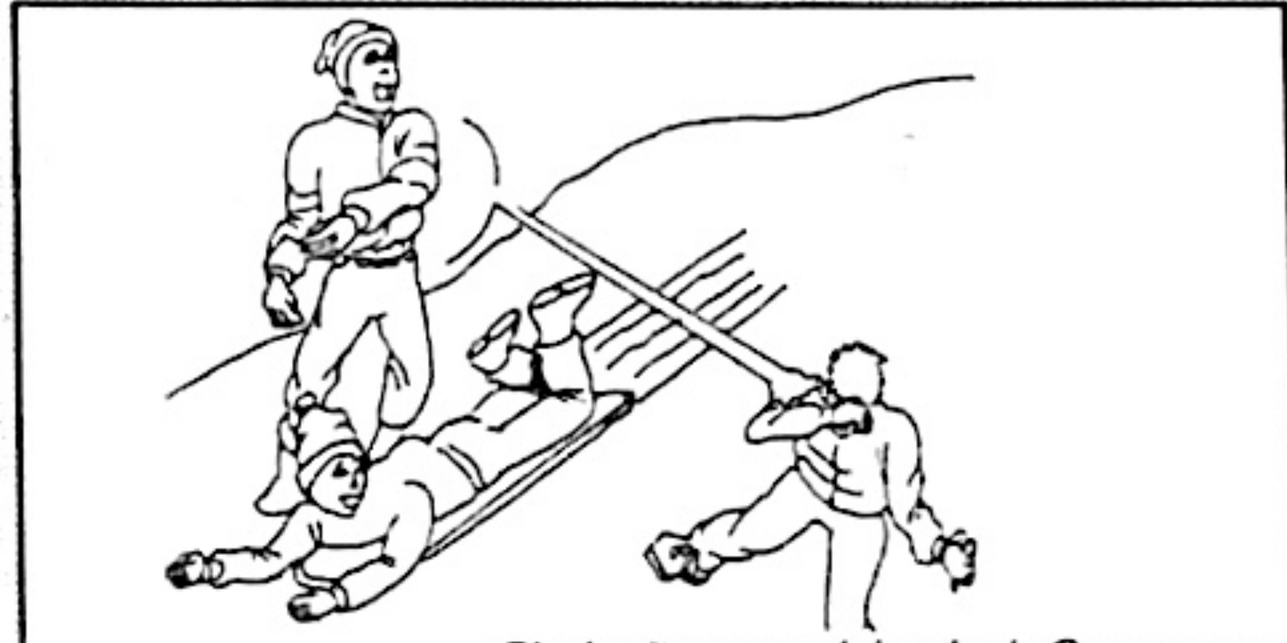
Jeers to finals. You are now entering the twilight zone...bring two #2 pencils.

Cheers to spaghetti.

Jeers to no snow days yet. Lake effect, do your stuff.

Cheers to two-week vacations. We deserve more.

Jeers to Art Modell. It had to be said twice.



Shakerite artwork by Josh Greenspan

Shakerite artwork by Josh Greenspan

Cheers to the entire cast of *Our Town* for a job well done. Cheers especially to all the young men in knickers and Bessie.

Jeers to early dismissal fire drills.

Cheers to flex night and assigned testing days, and teachers who follow them.

Jeers to the School Board, for attacking Ambiance when they have better things to do.

THE TOP TEN

Last Minute Holiday Gifts...

10. A box of cigarette butts from outside the science wing.
9. A 25 percent discount on an ego trip.
8. Baltimore Browns tickets.
7. A gift certificate to Ambiance.
6. A gift certificate to Revco.
5. **30 day parking passes for the Oval.**
4. A spirit pass.
3. Season tickets to the Shaker Orchestra.
2. A subscription to *Shakerite*.

...and the number one last minute gift is...

1. Alphabet charts (for freshmen).

SHAKERITE
SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL · 15911 ALDERSYDE DRIVE · SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO 44120

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^{o}-denotes member of editorial board

GUEST RITER

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

Gifted students deserve quality education

BY SHELLI CALLAND

Junior

Nationally, it seems to be fashionable in education to deny, or at least try to minimize, differences between students. This approach is wrong and is not supported by research.

In a comprehensive report entitled *The Relationship of Grouping Practices to the Education of the Gifted and Talented Learner*, Karen Rogers critically analyzes and evaluates the findings of 13 research syntheses which themselves examine the results of 1,012 studies of ability grouping in schools. These studies represent a large part of the research in this area, and by considering all of them, it is possible to reduce the effects of researcher prejudice, poor design, false data and other misleading flaws. It is also possible to draw valid conclusions from these studies and to form a solid understanding of what the research actually demonstrates about ability grouping in schools.

Among the many significant conclusions of this report, perhaps the two most profound are:

1) grouping high-ability students together and offering them a variety of accelerated educational experiences produces an enormous academic gain in achievement, creativity and critical thinking when these students are compared to high-ability students in mixed-ability, normal-curriculum situations, and

2) cooperative learning strategies and techniques are not academically beneficial, and may in fact be harmful, to high-ability students. The research also demonstrates that grouping by ability does not have a negative effect on either the self-esteem or the general achievement of students with average or low ability. The primary recommendations of this report are to group high-ability students together, and offer them a variety of enriched educational experiences that do not include cooperative learning.

For many reasons, the gateway to an academic environment for intellectually gifted students must be open to all who choose to enter. But movement through that gateway must be easy in both directions, and anyone who does not achieve at an acceptable level should be guided to a more suitable educational location.

Learning programs for gifted students are sometimes attacked as elitist when exactly the opposite is true. It is only fair to offer each student an equal opportunity to access the most appropriate educational experiences possible. In the case of high-ability students, this means separation, enrichment and acceleration. It is neither fair nor educationally defensible to imprison high-ability students in a curriculum written for students with average or low ability. In the final analysis, even though they are a distinct minority, students of above-average intelligence have the same right as all other students to a quality education.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student shares abortion experience

To the editor:

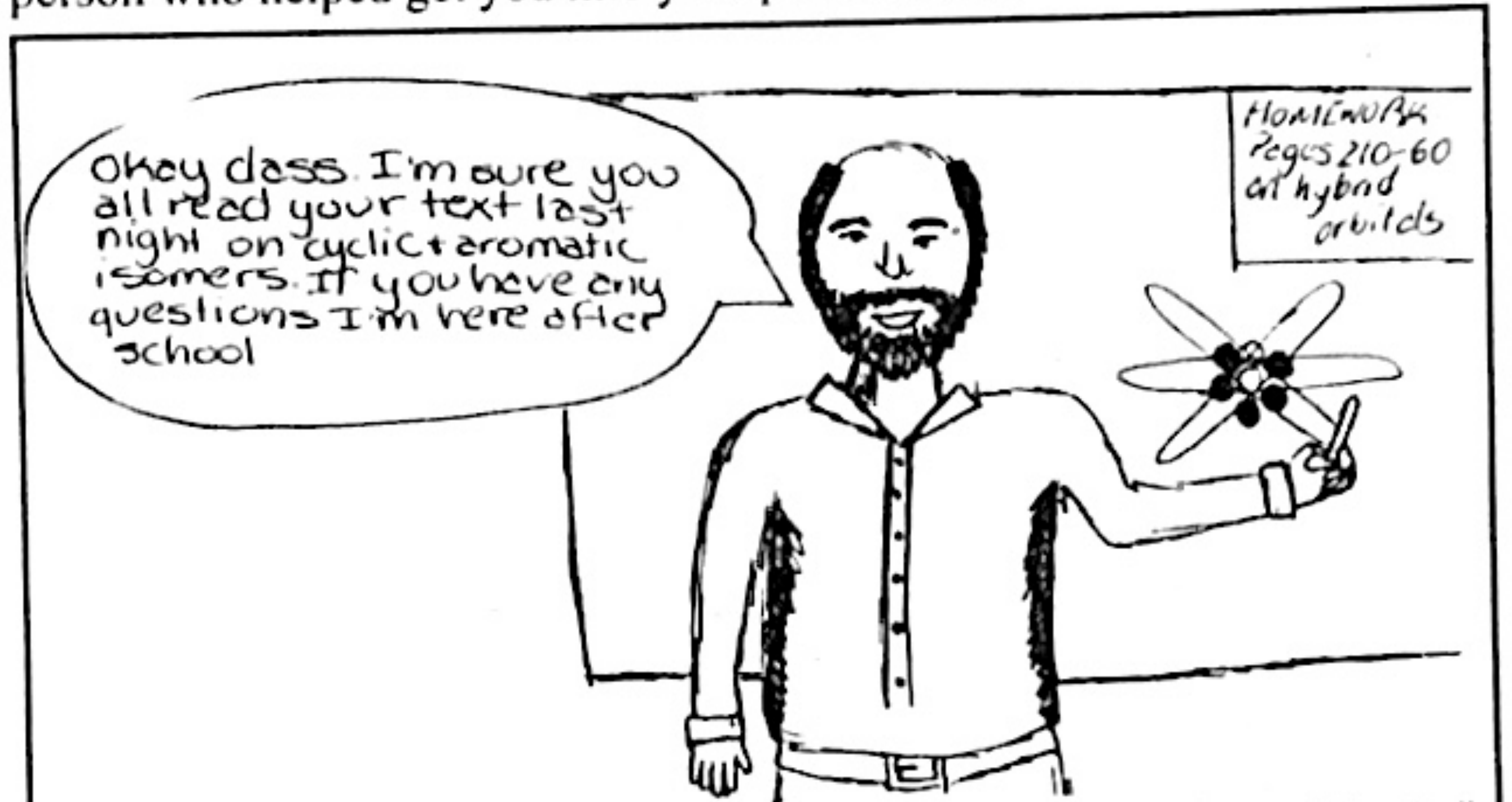
Ryan Gohmann has good opinions to support his feelings, but he does not know the true facts. He is a man and could not possibly know what type of torture a woman can put her body through for an unwanted baby. He could never know the countless numbers of single mothers who are out there because of men who leave when they find out they are soon-to-be fathers. He could never know the number of women who die because of "back-yard" abortions. These women die because they fear harassment from pro-life people; they die because they lack the funds to properly take care of a child, or to pay for a safe abortion. I know all of this information and the feelings that go with it because I actually went through counseling before having an abortion.

Picture yourself (male/female) at a young age and pregnant because of defective birth control. You realize what has happened and you are too young to take care of a child. You do not want to depend on your parents to take care of you and your child and you cannot depend on the person who helped get you into your predicament.

You sit at an abortion clinic for about seven hours for the whole procedure. Your mother drops you off at about 7 a.m. and leaves you there alone because she is so disappointed in you. You sit there and look at the women that have people holding their hands, wiping their tears and comforting them. It is finally your turn to see the doctor to begin your procedure. They try to dilate your cervix and that takes the longest. You sit for three to four hours until you are finally dilated and you sit another hour until it is your turn. When it is your turn you go into a room and they hook you up to an IV and you fall asleep. When you wake up they put you in a recovery room with other women that have gone through the same minor operation. Many are crying and being sick, while others are sitting saying nothing. Isn't this enough pressure and pain to go through? Isn't this just as bad as someone harassing you about killing your baby? Gohmann and other people say abortion is murder and murder is wrong, but harassing someone because of her choice not to start or expand a family is wrong, too.

> ***Your mother drops you off at about 7 a.m. and leaves you there alone because she is so disappointed in you..."***

-Name withheld



Okay class. I'm sure you all read your text last night on cyclic+aromatic isomers. If you have any questions I'm here after school
HOMEWORK Pages 210-60 on hybrid orbitals

Shakerite artwork by Rebecca Marshall

School prayer would divide student body

To the editor:

I feel that a time set aside for prayer during school would be detrimental to Shaker. A silent period for reflection would leave Shaker students wandering in the wilderness. Some students would find it awkward to express their personal beliefs with a student body so religiously diverse. People would be judged on how they used this allotted prayer time. Someone who takes their religion seriously could be greatly offended by someone who did not use this time to "reflect."

I have no problem with people praying privately in school, but their personal beliefs should be kept to themselves. If people feel that they need to pray, it should be their business and no one else's. A time set aside for prayer in school could polarize an already divided student body.

-Robert Klimek, sophomore

Shakerite must focus on relevant issues

To the editor:

I was disappointed with the cover story of *Shakerite* last month. The article I am referring to is "Signs of Change. Math department introduces innovative teaching." The cover story should be the most current and relevant issue concerning Shaker. *Shakerite* is a student produced newspaper. Why can't the issues students want to know about be published? Shaker students would rather see a front page story touching upon a controversial issues. If these changes are made *Shakerite* will truly be a paper that represents the student body of Shaker.

-Amy Griffith, senior

Teachers reluctant to answer questions

To the editor:

I have deduced that some teachers do not feel the need to give students individual help explaining material. Some teachers think it is okay to get in front of the class and simply give a lot of notes. When a question is asked they huff and puff as if asking the teacher a question has been outlawed in the Greater Cleveland area. Some teachers are so worried about completing their "lesson for the day" they don't stop to think about whether students comprehend what they are saying. Many of our beloved instructors justify their actions by saying "YOU KNOW, YOU CAN ALWAYS COME IN AFTER SCHOOL" as if every other teacher hadn't told you the same thing. Many students have jobs and other important activities after school and cannot go to more than one after-school appointment. I truly believe Shaker offers one of the best educations around. I just think teachers shouldn't mind answering a few questions.

-Larry Robertson, junior

Pagers not a problem; should be tolerated

To the editor:

"Report back in three days." That's what kids are being told when they are caught with pagers. The rules on pagers are getting ridiculous. People are carrying them regardless of the three day suspension rule. If they checked everyone in the school for a pager, half of the student population would be suspended for three days. There's nothing wrong with having a pager. They are not disruptive in any way. I must admit a couple of years ago pagers may have been a problem, because they were new and people just weren't used to them. Now, a pager has the same significance as my physics book. It is an everyday object that people use without fascination. The only disturbance caused by pagers is a three day suspension. The little box that vibrates is not going to kill anyone. The silly suspension rule over a pager needs to be reconsidered.

-Isaac Kidd, senior

Students respond to Guest Riter

Farrakhan racist, anti-semitic

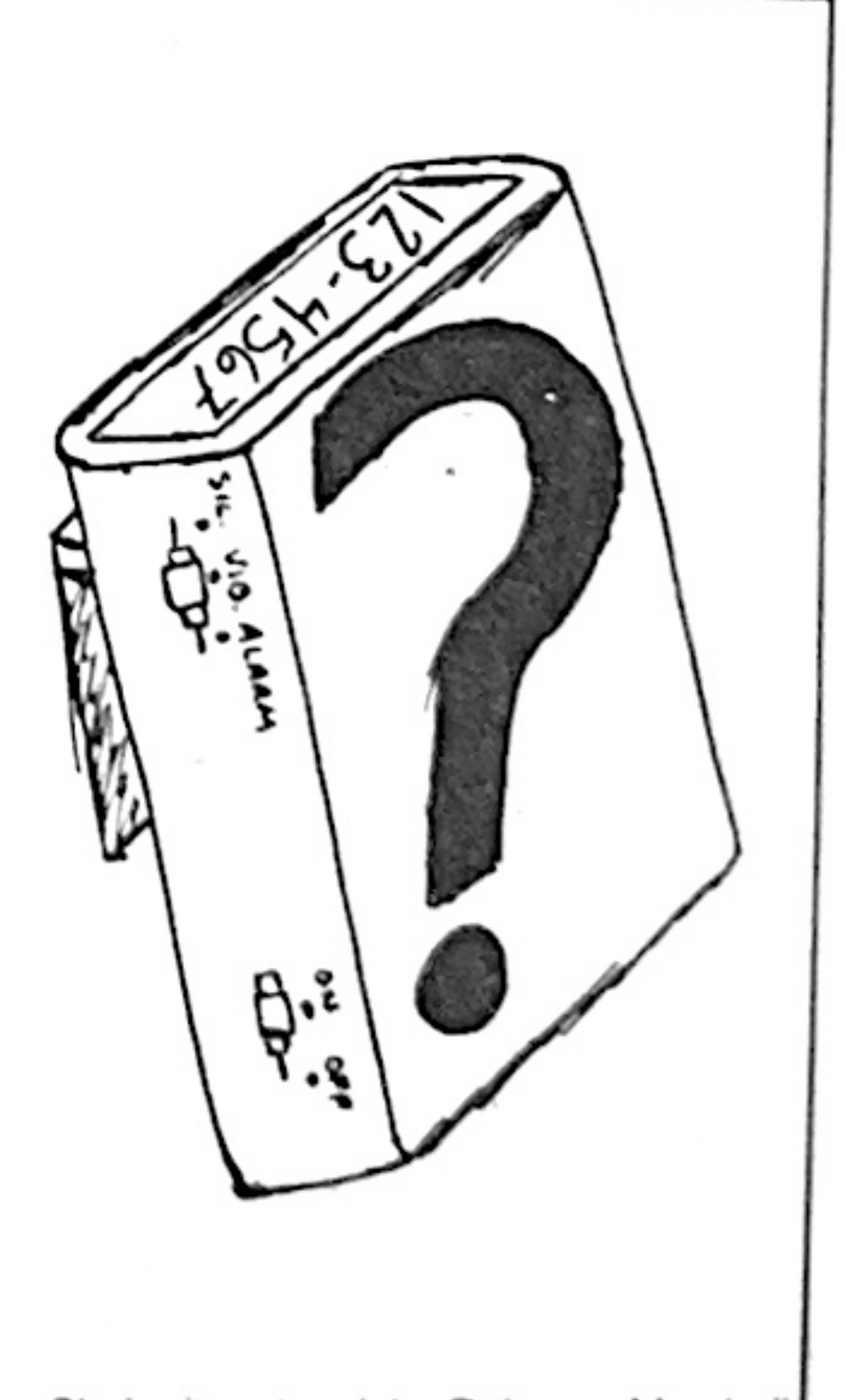
To the editor:

I am writing in response to Najah Farley's guest column. Farley criticizes the media because "they have led the public to believe that [Louis Farrakhan] is a racist and anti-semitic." Don't forget homophobic. How can he not be labeled as such when he supported Khalil Abdul Mohammed when he spoke atrocities during a speech at Kean College in New Jersey, 11/23/93, like, "We don't owe the white man nothing...if he won't get out...we kill everything white that ain't right...we kill the women, we kill the children, we kill the crippled, we kill the faggot, we kill the lesbian, we kill them all"? Farrakhan stated, "I stand by the truths that he spoke."

Farley started off commending the Million Man March (which, by the way, I thought had an excellent agenda) but ended up defending Farrakhan. Her opening statement, "October 16, 1995 will forever be remembered as the day...for Black men...to...support...a new agenda to improve the African-American community." But then she gets into apologies— which aren't relevant or necessary in an article supporting this event.

Farley incorrectly wrote that "...racism can only be perpetrated by those in a position of superiority..." "Reverse racism" is commonly thought of as the racism of blacks toward whites, but there is no such thing as "reverse racism." Racism is hatred based on ethnic background, and may be perpetrated regardless of authority. One does not need authority to be racist.

-Jessica Colombi, senior



Shakerite artwork by Rebecca Marshall

Learn from the past; don't live in it

BY RACHEL ZINN
Co-Centerpiece Editor

The wounds of the past still sting, but it is impossible for them to heal if we do not focus on the future.

The U.S. has a history which includes slavery, internment camps, the Rosenberg executions– not pretty pictures to put in the American scrapbook. The past will not change, but how can the future be brighter if we do not take the opportunity to act now, instead of constantly rehashing the horrors of days long gone?

Heritage and family history are definitely important sources of pride, but there are times when respect for ancestral roots can be taken to the extreme. It is a curious situation when an African-American who was born right here in lovely Shaker Heights insists he is from Africa. Similarly, it is often a peculiar experience to visit a synagogue and listen to a Rabbi preach to a group of young children about the Holocaust. "Never again!" they cry.

Well, guess what. You are too late. Have you watched the news lately? There's been ethnic cleansing going on in Bosnia for quite some time now. Why not preach about how we might help those who are suffering now, instead of reliving the past?

The United States certainly is not a true "melting pot," for discrimination is still alive and well. All people are not born equal, for economic class has a tremendous influence on the opportunities available to people. Equal representation in government is a myth. Congress is still dominated almost exclusively by old white men. Although these problems are real, they are a far cry from physical slavery and genocide. Progress has been made, and it does not dishonor the past to acknowledge that the stature of minorities has improved.

Shaker students have a unique chance to get a good education and share in community activities while being exposed to many different races and religions. It is not worth sacrificing our future for events we have never experienced. It would bring more honor to our ancestry to succeed in today's society than to preserve a tradition of hate.

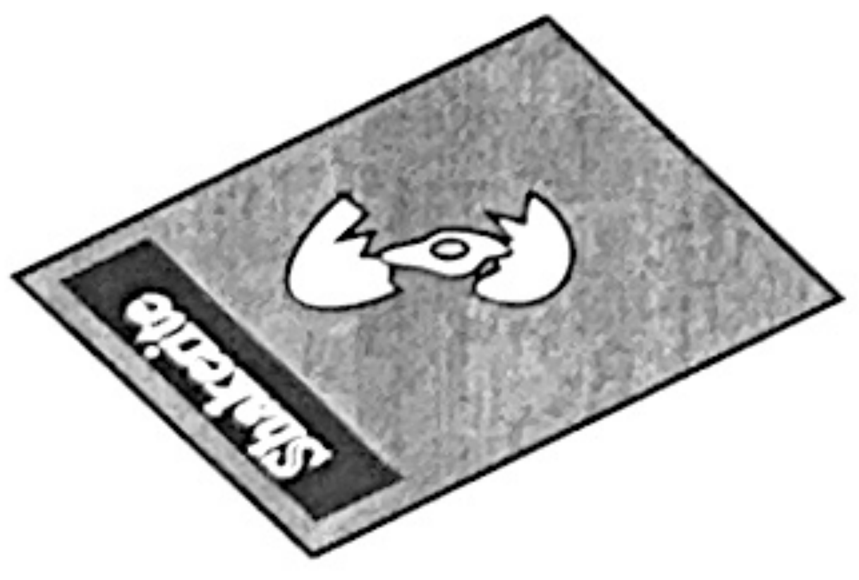
Of course, there are those who liked the past because minorities were oppressed. Neo-Nazism and the KKK are examples of small but extreme movements. These people would rather spend time attacking others than improving themselves.

Time will not stop, and society seems to be marching slowly toward equality. There will always be fanatics who refuse to admit progress has been made and who will go to any lengths to stop those who strive for peace.

We can only try to look forward, and hope that our voices drown out the few who are determined to live in the past. Many problems exist, but if we do not concentrate on improving the present, the future may look very grim indeed.

This is your brain.

This is your brain on Shakerite.

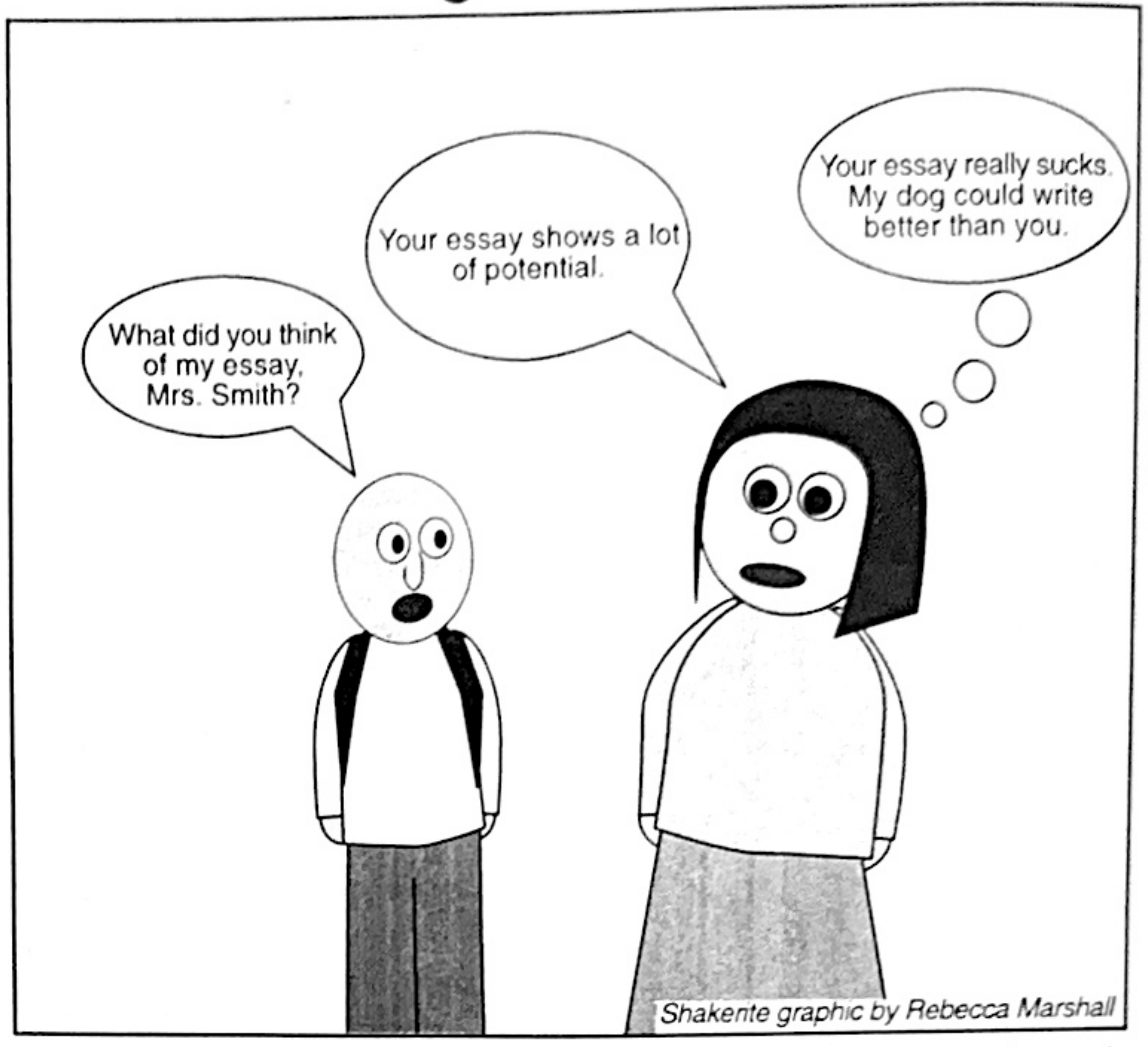


Any questions?

The Shakerite.
Innocent fun.

What did you say?

BY MILES BERGER
Co-A&E Editor


What did you think of my essay, Mrs. Smith?
Your essay shows a lot of potential.
Your essay really sucks. My dog could write better than you.

Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall

One of Shaker's greatest features is the strong foreign language department. A large number of Shaker students study either French, Spanish, Latin, German or Chinese and are learning how to translate these languages. However, the administration also has a responsibility to educate students so they can translate English and find the true meaning behind what people say.

For instance, students will often tell their teachers, "I did my homework, but I left it at home; so I should still get full credit tomorrow." However, the student is really thinking, "I had better things to do last night than my math homework, so I'm going to lie to you and turn it in tomorrow. I know you can't claim I'm lying without evidence, even if you know I am."

In addition to making these comments to their teachers, students tell their parents things they do not mean. Many students will say "Mom, that dinner was really good," when they are really thinking, "I'm going to the movies tonight and I'm broke, so I'm going to tell you this little lie so you will give me some money."

Many students use this flattery technique to earn good grades in school. For instance, many students will tell their teachers "You look nice today," or "that's a nice outfit," when what they are really thinking is "anybody with any intelligence knows you are just as ugly as you were yesterday, but since our tests are essays which are graded subjectively, I'm going to kiss up any way I can, even if it means saying ridiculous things."

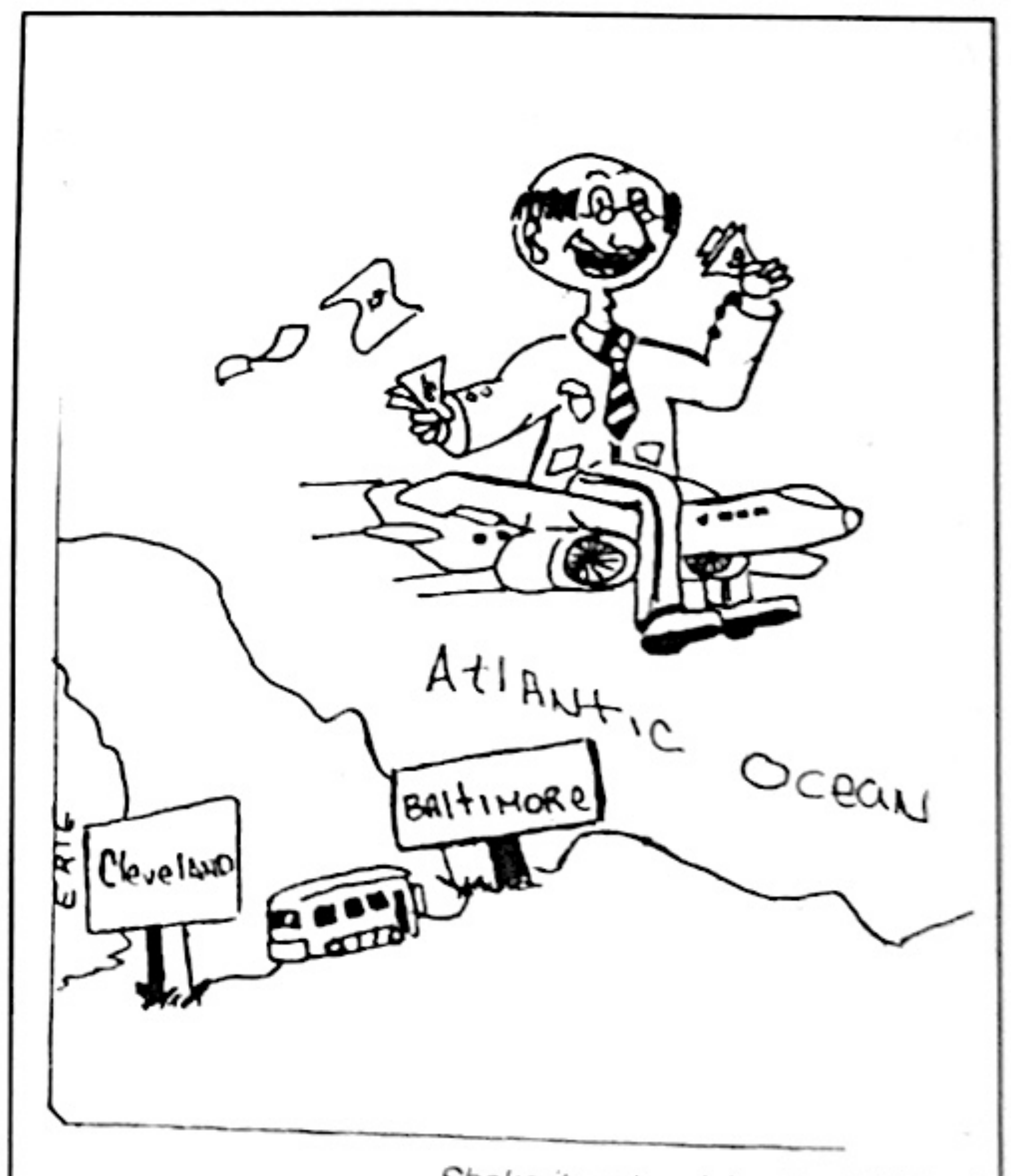
In addition to using this technique to get good grades, many music students also use this technique. When music teachers ask their students if they have practiced lately, the students often answer, "Yea, I practiced a lot," when they really mean, "Yea, I practiced a lot— watching TV, that is."

Students are not the only ones who do not say what they mean, though— teachers do it too. A teacher will often say "I will be unavailable after school because of a prior engagement," when they really mean, "I have better ways to spend my time after school than with you fools— seven hours is already too much time." However, there is a hidden irony in this thought— they think they have better things to do than school?

Also, teachers occasionally say things that are nicer than what they are really thinking. Teachers will often tell students "Well, your essay/project showed a lot of potential," when they are really thinking. "Your essay/project was the worst one I have seen in 20 years of teaching. My dog could write better than you."

The Browns: Is Modell unfair, or is Cleveland just getting what it deserves?

BY SCOTT FULLER
Co-Sports Editor



Shakerite artwork by David Roberts

Shock. Sadness. Fury. Following Art Modell's announcement that the team will move to Baltimore, all Cleveland Browns fans have experienced these feelings, and the media has subsequently expressed our emotions with every possible synonym, and maybe even a few more, for the previous adjectives. Rather than ramble on about what a terrible loss it will be to the city (which truly it will, but certainly you're growing tired of hearing about it), I'm instead going to ramble on about something you most likely haven't heard about. Indeed, it breaks my heart to utter these bitter words, but perhaps Cleveland got what it deserved.

Less than one month ago I wrote an article about the Indians and how everybody jumped on the bandwagon when they started winning. Before the Indians were successful, most of the city did not lose a wink of sleep because they were so terrible. If you didn't read the article (please tell me *somebody* did), my point was that it shouldn't take success to bring us together. I hate to say I told you so, but, well... Before the public was aware of the move to Baltimore, as much as you may deny it, a majority of the city was not paying the least bit of attention to our "beloved" Browns. Not even so much as a "Hey, the Browns really stink this year," escaped from anyone's lips. If nobody cared, then why the sudden outburst about the Browns packing up and shipping out? Even now, I do not hear anybody talking about how well our boys are faring (in case you didn't know, not so well). But, come on, we've still got a very, very, very very tiny chance to go to the Super Bowl! Again I must refer to the classic film, *Major League*. Remember when the team found out the showgirl owner wanted to move the team to Miami? Tom Berenger stood up and said, "Well, I guess there's only one thing left to do...win the whole gosh-darned thing!" Admittedly, we are not the players, but maybe we should stop cursing at Art, as much as he may deserve it, and start cheering for our boys in brown when they really need our support.

> ***"...maybe we should stop cursing at Art, as much as he deserves it, and start cheering for our boys in brown when they really need our support."***

Oh, and how 'bout those Cavs? You don't know? Well, let me tell you: they're not doing so great! (although they do seem to be winning lately). But that doesn't mean I'm going to stop following the games, or stop rooting for them. Because if we're not careful, they'll be gone as well.

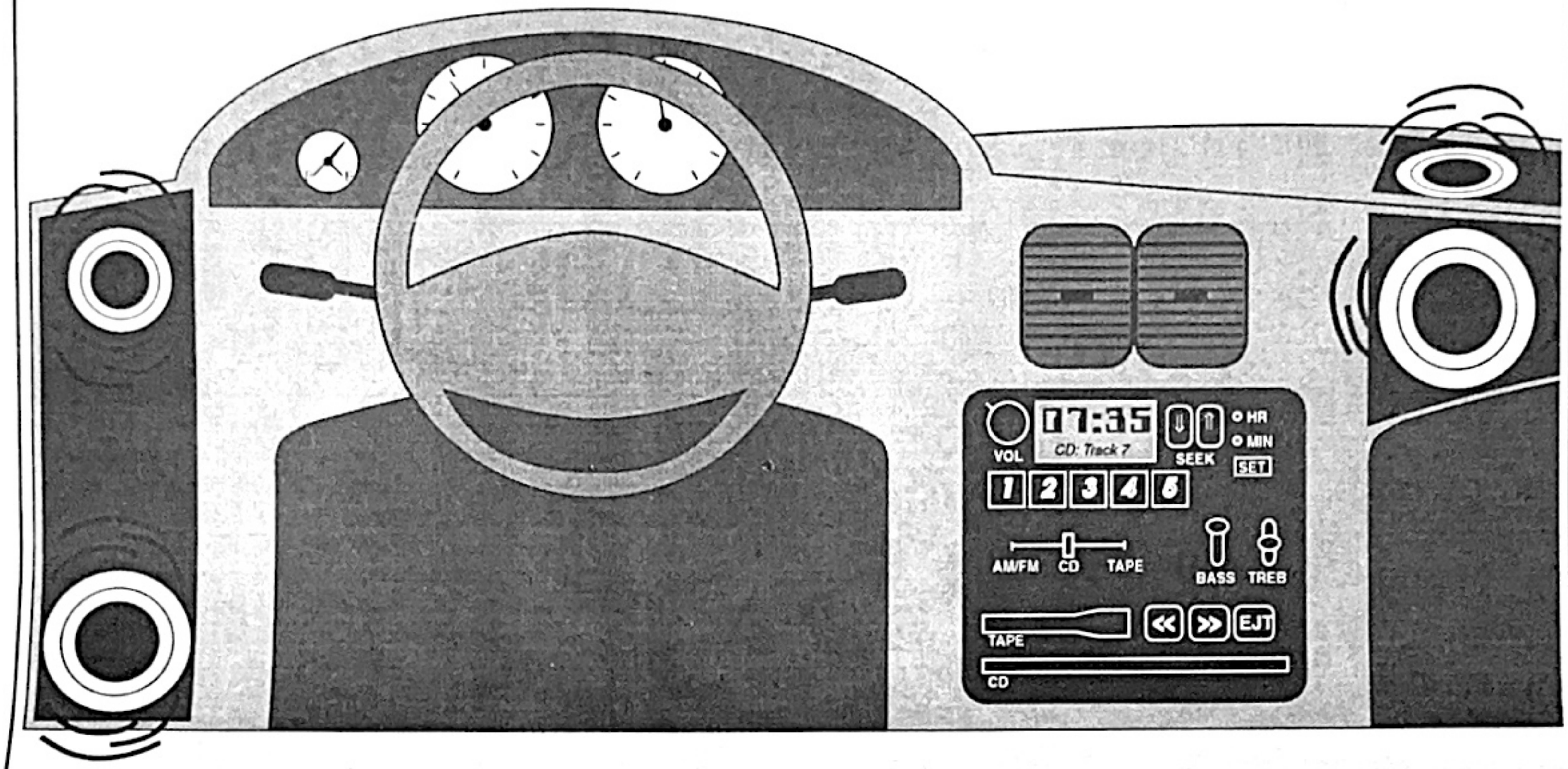
Surely, it should not take success to bring a city together, and it should not take a disaster, either. I guarantee in Baltimore they'll show more spirit than we did show and are showing now, and they'll just be content to have a team to cheer for.

The Top Eleven First Words of Popular Songs

1. I
2. My
3. I'm
4. When
5. You
6. It's
7. Little
8. In
9. Oh
10. If
11. I'll

Shakerite source: The Book of Lists

Bumpin': a sweet stereo smooths any ride



Shakerite graphics by Rebecca Marshall

BY STEVEN DEOREO
Staff Reporter

Your trunk rattles, the fillings in your teeth shake loose and the nearby security guard threatens to fill your Tuesday and Thursday afternoons with Mr. Hogue for the next century... but at least your new car stereo is cool.

After getting their driver's licenses, many students are getting cars to go with them, from brown Beaters to blue Benzes. However, many students say it is not the type of car, but the stereo that really makes the difference.

"I'm sure people would pay compliments to a bicycle if it had a nice, bumpin' stereo," junior Rashad Burnley said.

However, a lot of people don't know where to start their quest for the perfect system, so if you own a low-rider or you are an RTA lone rider, listen up: here are some basics. The clarity of CD sound is the key to a good system. A tape player will suffice, but loud volumes will distort the sound of a tape.

There are three ways to get a CD player into your car: a portable one with a cassette tape adapter, an in-dash CD player to replace the tape deck, or a disc changer (usually mounted in the trunk).

The discman is a good option for students with a small budget because it requires no installation and can be taken in and out of the car easily. If you already own a discman all you need is the tape deck adapter. The in-dash option is more expensive, but will offer better sound quality and less chance of skipping since the portable one would have to sit on the dash or in the seat, allowing it to bounce around. It is possible to save money by installing the in-dash model yourself, but be sure you know how. The trunk mounted CD changer is the most expensive but is unique since you can have six or more of your favorite CDs ready to play at once, without having to change them while driving.

For some students, a CD player is only half of the system– a sub-woofer completes the package. A sub-woofer is a large speaker or speakers, usually mounted in the trunk, that plays only the bass end of the music. Subwoofers, paired with an external amplifier (purchased separately and also mounted in the trunk) create the "booming" sound of some cars around the oval.

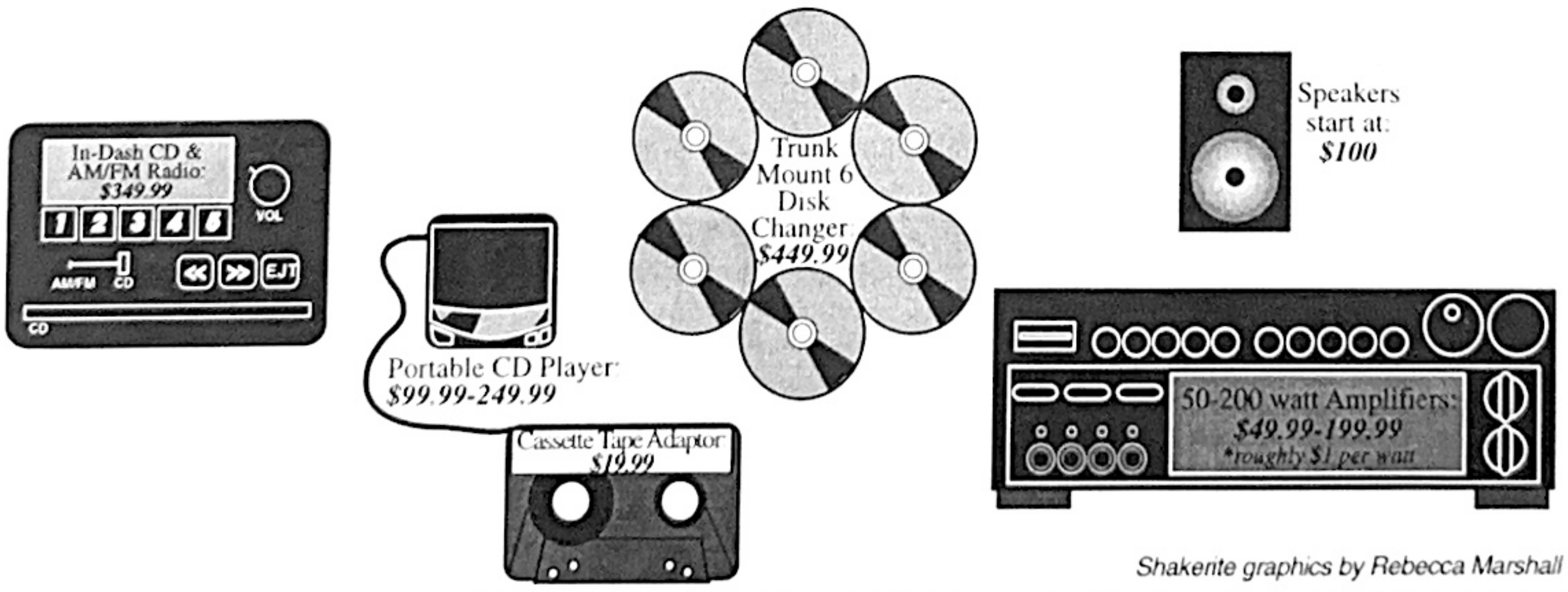
A word about the law. While there are no laws against car stereos, there are laws against excessive noise. At any time, a police officer can ask you to turn down your stereo, and you must comply. Failure to do so will result in a misdemeanor citation for disturbing the peace and a fine. This will usually only occur between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., however. At school a security guard can also ask you to turn down your music.

"For one thing, we don't want students to ruin their hearing with loud music. Besides that, loud music around the oval is disturbing to classes and the learning process. It is also against Shaker Heights city ordinance to disturb the peace," safety coordinator Michael Klima said.

Medical research has shown prolonged exposure to loud music can damage your hearing, according to the Grateful Med online medical service. In any stereo over 150 watts, even low volumes can be damaging. Since stereo volume is different from car to car, the best advice is to turn the music down if it is causing headaches, pain or ringing in your ears.

Despite these laws and health risks, trunks and teeth still rattle around the oval and security guards just can't get into the groove.

The price of $onic ec$ta$y


In-Dash CD & AM/FM Radio: $349.99
VOL
1 2 3 4 6
AM/FM CD
EJT
CD
Portable CD Player: $99.99-249.99
Cassette Tape Adaptor: $19.99
Trunk Mount 6 Disk Changer: $449.99
Speakers start at: $100
50-200 watt Amplifiers: $49.99-199.99
*roughly $1 per watt

Shakerite graphics by Rebecca Marshall

KIP'S PIKS

Winter means mediocre movies

Ace Ventura II: When Nature Calls has the same goofy humor seen in the first Ventura movie. As a matter of fact, this sequel is largely composed of the same jokes and gags as are seen in the original. They are reworked and spruced up but still horribly easy to recognize.

I suspect giving the movie a jungle setting was an attempt to disguise what is actually the first movie, minus a little ingenuity and refinement. Regardless of the motive, it does not serve as an improvement. It makes everything cheesy and unrealistic.

As for Ventura's character, he loses a lot of respectability. It seems, in an attempt to live up to the expectations he has set–namely, vulgarity and obnoxiousness - he has lost what is most to be admired and enjoyed. In *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*, he was a man unto himself. In *When Nature Calls*, he is just a loud, imposing and annoying guy.

Not to say the movie doesn't have its moments. Some, I sense, are dying to see more Ventura. This is for you.

However, if you saw *When Nature Calls* and thought it was boring, do not despair. There are plenty of other great movies out right now, such as *Copycat*.

Copycat was a silly movie. Harry Connick Jr. was good for a laugh. He's a hell of a guy, Harry is. A prodigy musically, and just a cool cat besides. But I digress.

In *Copycat*, Sigourney Weaver is a doctor specializing in serial killers. Then a serial killer (Harry Connick Jr.) gets to her and has his sick little way. She survives but is traumatized badly and gets panic syndrome and agoraphobia.

Meanwhile, there are some San Francisco cops who are baffled by the work of a new serial killer, and they begin looking to the agoraphobic doctor for help. Which is coincidental, of course, because as it turns out, the killer is obsessed with the doctor, just like Harry Connick was. As a matter of fact, he's working with Harry, who gives out instructions from behind the bars of his prison cell.

That's about it. There's some good acting in it, a little noteworthy cinematography and an excellent plot with a lot of excitement and surprises. Basically, if you are fond of serial killer movies, you'll like *Copycat* because it is a good serial killer movie. Yet, the very fact that it falls so nicely into the niche carved by past psycho movies denotes a certain element of stupidity. It was a very well done movie, but it was definitely a movie. It was not too realistic, not amazing in any aspect that would lead it ascendancy over other movies of its kind, not an affecting work of art.

Don't expect too much from this latest addition to the psycho movie genre, and you might not be let down. Heck, you might like it. I rather did.

Copycat

🍿 🍿 🍿 (out of four)

Ace Ventura II

🍿 🍿 (out of four)

–Kip Britt

Monster in the Closet

Door swings open as mysterious emotion is explored

BY KATIE EDELSTEIN
Co-Feature Editor

The green- eyed monster is an irritating beast who lurks within the hearts and minds of everyone. Spreading the infamous feeling of jealousy, he is a lousy guest who never ceases to overstay his welcome.

Jealousy, according to psychology teacher Baird Wiehe, is some type of anxiety level between what one does and does not have. If people perceive they do not have much, their anxiety level is likely to be sky high.

Feelings of frustration, inadequacy, hopelessness and lack of self confidence contribute to the jealous tendency. Since no one wants a jealous personality, it is hard to detect; the monster often remains an unconscious parasite to a denying host.

"A person is unable to see jealousy because it causes so much stress. In order to handle the stress, people protect it or displace it, when it's really their own frustration," Wiehe said.

Wiehe explained that projection and displacement are "defense mechanisms," which are unconscious deflections of feelings and desires considered inappropriate.

Projection occurs when a person perceives others as being jealous, when he or she is truly the jealous one. Displacement is when someone places his or her jealousy onto an unthreatening, safer object, such as 'kicking the cat.'

"Defense mechanisms are like denial. When you feel jealous, it's easier to put it outside of you temporarily and then deal with it later. Falling into defense mechanisms too long and not dealing with your jealousy is not healthy; you will create a world where everything is something you dislike about yourself," Weihe said.

Jealousy occurs in every stage of life, according to Wiehe. Adults tend to experience envy when they feel they have lost control.

"Everyone wants control; without it you feel devastated. Even realizing you do not have control, you are in control of knowing you have no control," Weihe said.

Since adults have ability to provide for themselves, social worker Pat Brown believes that not as much jealousy occurs during adult years.

"When you are an adult, you are more confident with yourself. What others have is not important. The world is more realistic and you are able to put realistic goals in place. The things that you want, you can achieve," Brown said.

Jealousy in adolescence is definitely normal, Wiehe said. The cognitive process of change takes place during the teenage years. Therefore, it is a frightening time that is prone to envy.

Teens, according to Brown, are limited in exposure, so the whole world is new to them. As a result, jealousy for them is frequent and can sometimes cause problems.

"Teens can become so preoccupied with other people that they loose touch of themselves. Their actions become focused on being someone they really aren't," Brown said.

Social comparison jealousy is prevalent in adolescent relationships. According to an article in the August 1993 issue of "*Mademoiselle*", although we want our friends to be successful because it makes us look good, if they achieve too much success, we become uneasy seeing our own shortcomings reflected in their accomplishments.

Jealousy is everywhere in our culture, according to Wiehe. He believes today's society is generally emotionally depressed because we are jealous of the way things used to be.

"As we downsize and change our expectations of lifestyle, we have become nostalgic and jealous for the past. That is why we are building stadiums to replicate the old days," Wiehe said.

On the other hand, Brown believes jealousy in society is minimizing.

"In today's times, it is more acceptable to be who you are. Many more individuals have a positive self concept, which, in turn, perhaps decreases jealousy," Brown said.

No matter what form the green-eyed monster takes, he is never wanted and not considered a positive trait. However, he lurks within us all as a reminder of our imperfections.

A Bitter Venom

How Jealous are You?

Check the situations that sound like things you would do.

_____ Your first thought when you walk into your friend's mansion is, "No wonder he's so nice. He can afford it."

_____ Your idea of a good time is mailing an impaled pig heart to your ex's current boy/girl friend.

_____ When the girl in front of you gets an A on her math test, you sneer, "Congrats. If I had nothing else to do on Saturday nights, I could do just as well."

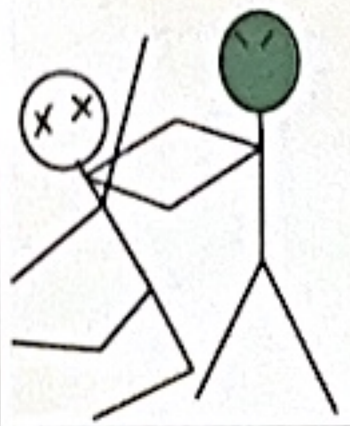
_____ One night you and your boy/girl friend go out to a fancy dinner. When you catch your sweetie staring at a cute waitress or waiter, you throw down your napkin and pout all night.

_____ The star player on your athletic team finds a dead frog in his/her locker. Could it have anything to do with the fact that he/she was picked over you for Raider of the Month?

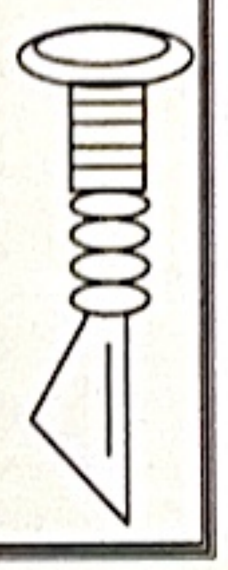
If you checked more than two, jealousy plays a definite role in your life. Look on these pages to discover how to cope with these envious feelings.

Hollywood Goes GREEN!

Here are the top five television shows and movies that feature jealous characters and envy inspired situations--Enjoy!



5. **Melrose Place**--who can forget the infamous pool scene between Jane and Sydney.
4. **Fatal Attraction**--Glenn Close makes bunny stew-yummy.
3. **Long Island Lolita:the Amy Fischer Story**--Who wouldn't go nutty over a perverted, over-the-hill mechanic.
2. **Heathers**--Winona Rider poisons the head Heather with Draino, mmm mmm good!
1. **The Betty Broderick Story**--nuff said.



Zealous or Jealous?

The halls of Shaker swirl with voices filled with emotion. The effects are subtle, but jealousy slithers through whispered insults and fake laughter. How do students and teachers deal with this insidious emotion?

BY LAURA CURTISS AND NIKI DORSKY
Staff Reporters

Academics, athletics, and friendships are a part of high school life that are obvious in the daily events of most every student's life. Less obvious are the seldom seen feelings of jealousy that develop between students.

Whether envy comes from unequal playing time, favoritism by coaches, or difference in skill, it is common among members of athletic teams.

Sophomore Allison Beamer finds that these emotions are prevalent among her teammates in firld hockey and swimming.

"On the field hockey team, people get jealous over who gets more playing time. It's not a huge problem, but people can get egos. I think people might have been envious because I got to play a lot. Just like in swimming, I look up to the people who swim faster than me," Beamer said.

Jealousy also exists on the ice hockey team. Senior John Doe* says he does not receive the playing time he deserves and is jealous of those who play more than he.

"The games are so competitive that only the very best players get to participate alot. It makes me jealous of them because I feel like if I was out there, I could do even better," Doe said.

People who do not play on the sports teams tend to resent the attention often focused on athletics. Some find their extracurricular accomplishments are overlooked simply because there is so much emphasis on sports in the school.

"I work hard inside and outside of school. I'm a member of SGORR and other clubs, but the work I put into those things is never recognized. I see all the hype about the football and field hockey teams, and I feel left out just because I'm not an athlete. It makes me feel jealous of the attention they're getting," sophomore Julie Landau.

Envy is not confined to sports. It is often found in academics where students compete for better grades, higher test scores and teacher recognition.

Several students say this competitive atmosphere can result in student cheating. Copying homework and test answers has become ritual among some students, which sophomore Jason St.Orange feels is a direct result of jealousy.

"People are jealous of others who can do well without cheating. Instead of admiring them for their intelligence, we call them dorks, yet people still cheat off them," St. Orange said.

Global Studies teacher Robert Wonson said he frequently observes resentment in lower level classes when an under-acheiving student earns a good grade.

"It seems that students try to discourage good grades so that they feel comfortable with their bad ones," Wonson said.

Grades are not the only cause of conflict. *Junior Terrence Curtain said that* teacher favoritism can act to increase jealousy in the classroom.

"When teachers favor different students in the class, it makes the people who they don't favor jealous and makes them not want to work hard. I see a lot of envy in the classroom, and it really affects people's grades. When I see someone getting special treatment in my class, it makes me real jealous and not as motivated to do my work," Curtain said.

The social scene in the school, ranging from relationships to friendships to appearance, also fosters envy in students. Though many times these emotions are not spoken of, they can be the cause of rivalries.

"People get jealous when they see someone wearing clothes that they wish they had. They try to make fun of the person who is wearing them to make themselves feel better," sophomore Phyllis Hart said.

Clothing is not the only aspect of appearance that spurs jealousy. Physical attributes play a significant role as well.

"There's a girl in my gym class who has the best body. All of the guys are always staring at her, and they never pay any attention to me. It makes me jealous because I had no control over the body I got," freshman Lisa Smith* said.

Sometimes intimate relationships can be jeopardized by envy. Romantic involvement is a common foundation from which jealousy evolves.

"I once went out with a guy from another school and he would get really jealous of my guy friends from Shaker. Whenever I wanted to hang out with them he got really mad at me. It totally ruined our relationship," junior Hallie Joseph said.

Jealousy is a common problem which can cause discontent among people, and usually arises out of uneasiness with oneself. Problems can be avoided by self acceptance, which might prevent the spreading of negative attitudes among students who could be helping, rather than hating, one another.

* names have been changed to protect the identities of those who did not want their names published

Envy Busters

- If you want to know what it is like to walk in someone else's shoes, ask them where they got their's, and go buy a pair.
- Eat chocolate!!!!
- If you want something you can't have
  Dont get sad or even mad
  Go take a walk.
- You may not be good enough, or smart enough and people may not like you-but you are unique so be proud of yourself.
- No matter who you are jealous of, they probably aren't perfect either. That oughtta make you feel better.
- Go outside with some salt. Find a slug. Watch the salt erode the slug's convulsing body into the sidewalk. I bet you are glad you are you. You could be that slug.

Shakerite artwork by Katarina Usvitskaya

Dogg Pound album for the dogs

BY LESLIE SIMON
Co-Centerpiece Editor

Dogg Food
Tha Dogg Pound
Parental Advisory Explicit Lyrics

WORD UP. Dogg Food barks at the camera on the cover of the chart-topping Death Row Records release, *Tha Dogg Pound.*

Snoop Doggy Dogg may be incarcerated, but his music still lives on through *Dogg Food*, the latest release by Tha Dogg Pound, a subsidiary of the Dogg Pound Gangstaz (DPG).

Started by Dr. Dre and Snoop, Tha Dogg Pound consists of rappers Kurrupt and Daz. Other DPG members such as Nate Dogg, Michel'le, Sam Sneed and the Lady of Rage appear on *Dogg Food*.

Dogg Food is the album that was attacked by Congress for its foul language and degrading attitude toward women, starting the crusade against gansta rap. Supposedly, this negative publicity even caused Time Warner Records to drop the subunit Interscope Records, distributor of Death Row Records, the company responsible for acts like Dre and Snoop. But when a CD or tape is tops in the charts, they may wonder what the big deal is.

Sure the language is raunchy and the attitude degrading, but if people don't want to listen to it, they won't buy it. When a song, though heavily edited, comes on the radio, those people can just change the channel.

First of all, the CD is not even all that. The first release, "Let's Play House," borrows the beginning beat from The Lady of Rage's "Afro Puffs." While the former is probably the most catchy track on the CD, that's not saying much.

Tha Dogg Pound could not produce an original rhythm to save its life, with most of the tracks being monotonous and simply boring. Many of the beats are sampled from the samples on Snoop's *Doggystyle*. They even go so far as to borrow lyrics from Dr. Dre's "Keep Their Heads Ringing."

Other returning attractions are that of the imaginary radio station WBALLS, in "Smooth." At the end of this track, the same call-in requests happen as at the end of Snoop Doggy Dogg's "21 Jumpstreet."

"New York, New York," discussing life on the streets of New York, repeats the same rhythm over and over again. The beat is weak, and the lyrics hold a dull tone throughout the song.

On half of the tracks, the bass booms so much that you cannot hear the lyrics. This could be a good thing because the voices are often not even on key, like in "Ridin, Slippin, and Slidin'."

One may experience an eerie sense of deja-vu when listening to this CD. For example, the sequel to "Big Pimpin," a track on Snoop's *Murder Was the Case*, is an instance where the saying two is not always better than one definitely applies. The sequel is just some guy named Big Pimpin talking about how much his woman does for him and how much of a bitch she is. Yippee. At least in the first one, a rap took up the first couple of minutes of the song.

As for Snoop, the only good songs are the ones which he is featured on; "If We All Fuc," "A Dogzz Day Afternoon," and "Smooth" are the most entertaining tracks on the CD.

Tha Dogg Pound first appeared on the rap scene with "What Would You Do?" featured on the *Natural Born Killers* soundtrack. This song displayed the potential of Kurrupt and Daz . . . but now people wonder what went wrong with Dogg Food. If this one-hit-wonder doesn't want to get sent to the dog house, its members are going to need to learn some new tricks fast.

Slip on those cowboy boots and ride over to the Boot Scootin' Saloon

BY LESLIE SIMON
Co-Centerpiece Editor

Shakerite artwork by Katarina Usvitskaya

"So Jane, what are you doing on Sunday?"

"I don't know yet, Tim. Why?"

"What would you say if I told you that I knew a little joint that was fun, happening and a place you could get in a little line dancing?"

"I'd say that it must be BS!"

"Yup, that's right— it is BS, the Boot Scootin' Saloon!"

The Boot Scootin' Saloon (BSS) is a country-western bar, open every Sunday night for people of all ages to line dance.

At 6 p.m., the BSS starts blasting country music, hosting live bands, and showing videos on about four large screens strategically placed throughout the joint to acheive maximum cowboy enjoyment.

At about 7 p.m., the instructors begin teaching the steps of many line dances, including the "Texas Twostep" and the "Boot Scootin' Boogie."

"I didn't know what to expect. I mean get real. Who actually goes line dancing on the weekends? But the minute I walked in the doors, I got into this country mentality. It was a lot of fun, and I would definitely go back again," junior Jill Webster said.

When one walks through the doors of the Saloon, there is a gift shop specializing in cowboy hats, boots and other western momentos.

The BSS also has a mini pool hall and plenty of arcade games.

So next time school has you feeling down and out, jump back on your horse and kick it on up to the Boot Scootin' Saloon for a wild western night out. Yahoooo!

What's Goin' On?

Bundle up and have a blast

BY AARON GALVIN
Staff Reporter

Haven't decided what to do over winter break? You could get a head start studying for finals; but for those of us who like to have fun, there is a wonderful winter wonderland. People with access to cars (read: juniors, seniors and some sophomores) can make a pilgrimage to New York or Pennsylvania for skiing and snowboarding. For others (freshmen), you can have mommy and daddy drive you to Boston Mills/Brandywine. For activities a little bit closer to home, you can go tobagganing in the Metroparks or stay home and make snow angels in your front yard. Here is a list of some fun skiing and winter activity facilities:

* **Boston Mills/Brandywine Ski Resort**
Moderate sized slopes for beginner and intermediate skiers.
Lift ticket prices range from $15 to $35.
Call 467-2242 for more information.

* **The Chalet Tobagganing**
Located in Cleveland's beautiful Metroparks.
Feel a thrill while schussing down two icy tracks.
Prices range from $5 to $10.
Call 572-9990 for details.

* **Holiday Valley Ski Resort**
Challenging skiing for the expert downhill extremist or gentle bunny slopes for beginners.
Though 3 ½ hours away, it's well worth the gas.
Prices range from $25 to $45.
Call 716-699-2345 for more information.

* **Seven Springs Ski Resort**
Have fun in the snow while enjoying a beautiful setting and great skiing.
Located in the Laurel Highlands, Pennsylvania.
Prices range from $25 to $45.
Call 1-800-452-2223 for details.

For your entertainment pleasure, Cleveland offers many options. The Cavs and (Baltimore) Browns games are always fun, as well as the many concerts and movies coming to the metropolitan area. Shaker athletic events on the weekends are always a fun place to see your friends.

* **Shaker Hockey Team**
Home games are Friday nights at Thornton Park.
Watch players Matt Danish, Mike O'Loughlin, Mike Mears and Evan Schwartz shoot and score.
Entrance is $3 for students.

* **Cleveland Rock and Roll Hall of Fame**
The city's newest attraction!
Open everday all day long.
Prices range from $7 to $30.
Call 1-800-439-ROLL for more group rates and further information.

* **The Rocky Horror Picture Show**
Cedar Lee Theatre, Cleveland Heights.
Plays every Saturday at midnight.
Costs $6.50.

* **First Light**
Cleveland's own!
Dec. 16 at 10 p.m. at Peabody's Down Under.
Call 241-0792 for details.

* **Led Zeppelin Tribute**
15 bands performing.
Dec. 28 at 10:00 pm at Peabody's Down Under.
Call 241-0792 for details.

* **Rusted Root**
Dec. 29 at 8 p.m. at the CSU Convocation Center.
Call 241-5555 for tickets.

* **Kwanzaa Festival**
Dec. 30 at 8 p.m. at the CSU Convocation Center.
Call 241-5555 for tickets.

The top five things to do with snow
5) Make snow angels
4) Make ice sculptures and demand extra credit in English for your creative abilities
3) Eat it (only if it's not yellow)
2) Bury your younger siblings
1) Create a snowmate so you are not lonely Friday night

Shop 'till you drop

BY KATIE EDELSTEIN AND NICOLE SUTCLIFFE
Co-Feature Editors

On a cold Saturday morning, we gave up sleeping- in to hunt for the perfect, inexpensive and most creative gifts for the holidays. With this goal in mind we traveled to three local malls to compile a list of the top stores based on customer service, uniqueness and upcoming sales. Below you will find our results in no particular order.

Randall Park Mall

✻ Miram's Original
Location: Upper level, near Kauffman's
Features: Merchandise straight from Africa, including incense, hats, scarves and masks
Price Range: 50 cents to $30
Average Price: $6 per purchase
Our Comments: We found the employees care about the customers and are enthusiastic when selling their merchandise. The store's authentic ambiance make it stand out.

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✻ Unique Gift Shop
Location: Upper level, near J.C. Penny
Price Range: Under $20
Features: Mechanical toys, unique phones and handmade crafts
Our Comments: This store is definitely one of a kind where you can find just about anything. The owner knows the merchandise well and is able to answer any questions.

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✻ Dejaz
Location: Upper level
Features: Outerwear and accessories
Price Range: $10 and up with sales lasting through Dec. 26
Our Comments: The sales make it a store where you can find great inexpensive gifts

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✻ Spencer's
Location: Upper level
Price Range: $5-$30
Features: Lava lights, keychains, phones
Our Comments: Store has a free, anything goes attitude. Employees are friendly, and there are great discounts.

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Beachwood Mall

✻ The Nature Company
Location: Upper level near south entrance
Price Range: $3 and up
Features: Animal ornaments, stationery, books and calendars
Our Comments: The store is expensive but provides small items that will make interesting gifts

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✻ Imaginarium
Location: Upper level in center
Price Range: $2 and up
Features: *Hannukah gifts, name stamps and a variety of toys*
Our Comments: *Friendly employees and* original gifts for younger siblings or relatives

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✻ The Disney Store
Location: Upper level near Saks Fifth Avenue
Price Range: $10-$30
Features: Stuffed animals, videos, clothes and books
Our Comments: The store tends to be expensive, but it is well worth it. Merchandise is fun and perfect for all ages.

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✻ Bath and Body Works
Location: Upper level near Saks Fifth Avenue
Price Range: Varies with items; sales and discounts running through the holidays
Features: Gift baskets
Our Comments : The customer service is superb. Employees are well informed and enthusiastic.

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✻ Claire's
Location: Upper level of Beachwood mall near Dillards
Price Range: Under $20 with sticker sales
Features: Keychains, earrings and an assortment of jewelry and hair accessories
Our Comments: The store is located at all three malls and has low prices of good quality items.

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✻ The Marketplace
Location. The carts throughout the mall's upper and lower levels
Price Range: Varies on different carts
Features: Sports paraphernalia, jewelry and other miscellaneous merchandise such as cards and puzzles
Our Comments: These are great places to find unique gifts that you would not be able to find anywhere else.

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Severance Mall

✻ Fashion Bug
Location: Near western entrance of the mall off Lee Road
Price Range: 50-60 percent off all items
Features: Small items such as clothing, jackets and jewelry that make great gifts
Our Comments: The store is closing, so the discounts are top rate. The merchandise is a good quality, however the store is extremely crowded.

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✻ Rave
Location: Near western end of the mall
Price Range: Under $30
Features: Wide range of clothing and perfumes
Our Comments: The store has stylish clothes and offers great discounts. The employees are extremely helpful.

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✻ International Collection
Location: Near the eastern exit of the mall
Price Range: $2 and up; holiday sale of 20-50 percent off all items
Features: Picture frames, earrings, lamps, Victorian jewelry boxes
Our Comments: The store has nice items for an amazingly low price. Although at first glance the store might seem low quality, it contains top rate merchandise.

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✻ Winkelman's
Location: Near eastern entrance to the mall
Price Range: $8 and up
Features: Earrings, necklaces, belts, handbags, planners,calendars and hair accessories
Our Comments: Although this store houses much expensive apparel, the smaller items near the back make great gifts and are fairly inexpensive.

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Instead of wasting countless hours running from store to store, searching for the gift that will be just right, consider the stores listed above. Happy shopping, and good luck!

Ratings out of four bags

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THE DISNEY STORE
Imaginarium
RAVE
The Young Men's Store
GAP
THE NATURE COMPANY
THE MARKETPLACE
Disney

Shakerite photo by Laura Kushnick

From the director's chair

BY KATIE EDELSTEIN
Co-Feature Editor

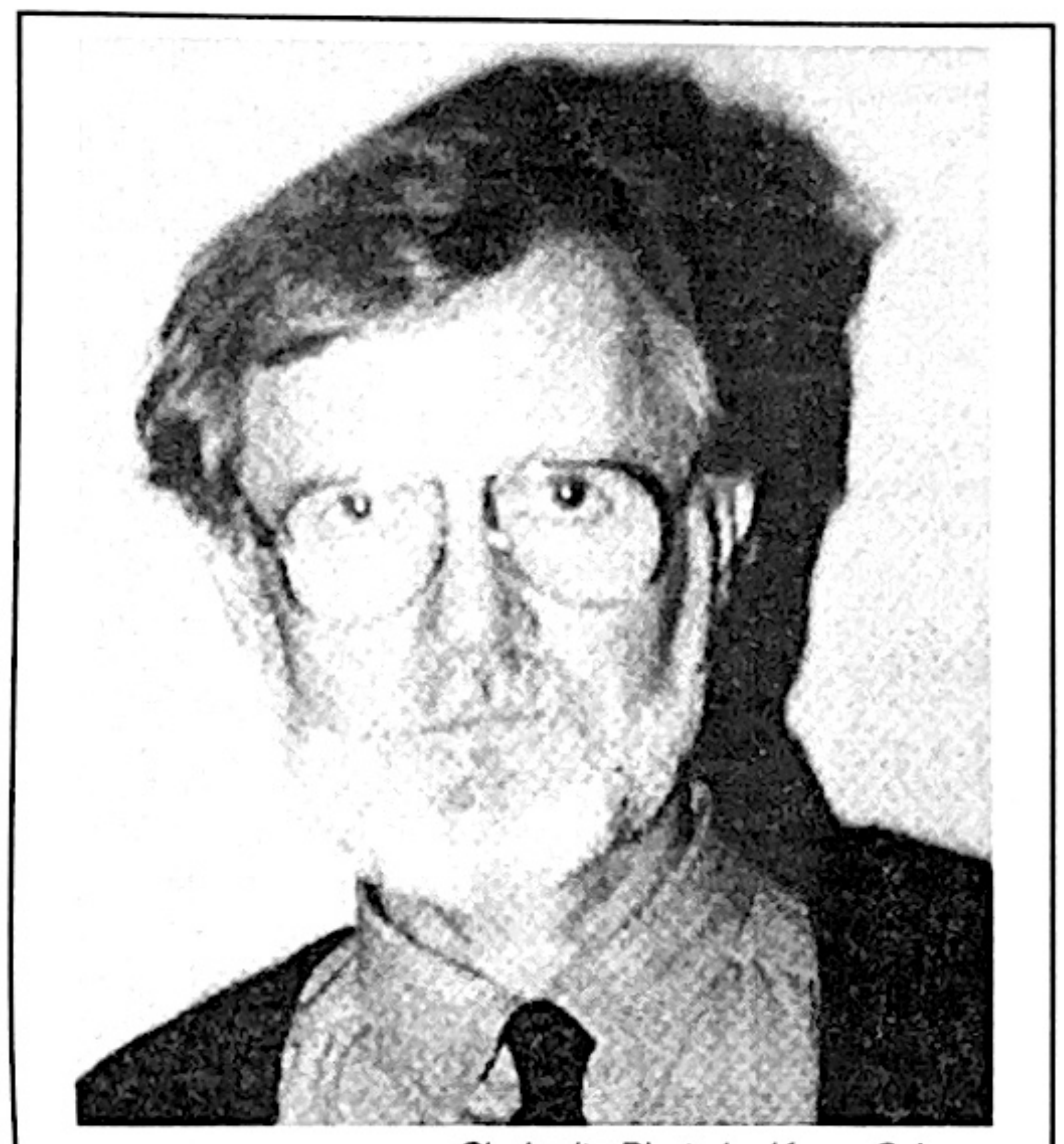
Picture a theatre department with no Ensemble, New Stages, Shakescenes or Improv. Eighteen years ago, before theatre teacher James Thornton gave up professional directing to teach, this scenario was Shaker Theatre.

When Thornton arrived at Shaker, there was no theatre department. Thirty-one students were enrolled in three classes, Theater I and II and an acting and play productions class, which were simply part of the English department. There were good productions, however they were viewed as extra-curricular activities, according to Thornton.

"I felt play productions should be co-curricular, so they became linked to class study, as an expanded classroom. I thought the stage should be a classroom and every play like a textbook," Thornton said.

This vision of learning something while acting was the biggest attitude change Thornton established at Shaker and it has become the theatre department's main goal.

"The theatre experience should be an active laboratory which challenges the student and is something they can identify with. [The students] are not just sitting in a chair learning; they are involved in performance, publicity, promotion, reservations and management. Since they have not done these things before, they are learning," Thornton said.


Shakerite Photo by Karen Schwarz

Along the lines of this co-curricular goal came other changes. *Thornton applied the ensemble approach, where there are no stars and everyone has a responsibility to pull off a great show; this philosophy is of course the basis of* Ensemble, a class Thornton created. Focusing on such aspects as production, management studies and playwriting, Thornton developed New Stages and Shakescenes and installed guest artist program where guest artists and alumni work with students.

When English and theatre teacher Kelly Myers arrived, Improv was added to the list.

Senior Billy Zavelson, active in the theatre department, believes the programs established by Thornton are incredible.

"He changed [Shaker theatre] to be one of the most well known high school departments in the country. The reason the department is good is because its goal is for the students to learn as they go along, not just to do a show, costume and end it. It's an ongoing thing," Zavelson said.

Another of Thornton's goals is to help students identify with the productions. It is also important that the play affects the audience. He considers these criteria when choosing and directing a play.

"When you pick a play, you have to find one that's really affecting to people. You do it so it's legitimate to the author's themes, but will talk to the audience," Thornton said.

Applying this goal to plays here at Shaker, Thornton adds his own details to make the shows different and relevant to today.

"Whatever you do with a show, it must work practically and emotionally. For *Tempest* the cast wore blue denim Levi's with costume pieces on top of them. In *Oliver*, Bill Sykes was a genuine threat instead of a partially comical character. There are a lot of Bill Sykes running around today. In *Our Town* the stage manager is his own age— 18," Thornton said.

Zavelson admires Thornton's creative directing abilities.

"I have high respect for Mr. Thornton because he can take something like *Our Town* that's so overdone and turn it into something original," Zavelson said.

Before Thornton arrived at Shaker, he worked as a professional actor, a director in Chicago and Cincinnati and managing artistic director of the Kent Acting and Touring Company. Since then he has considered going back to directing outside of school.

"I've always loved directing. You don't have the responsibility of teaching or producing and managing. [My job] at Shaker is all of these things combined into the regular schedule of one day; you can't give your full focus to the aesthetics of the play or to your vision as a director," Thornton said.

However, Thornton sees advantages to his job here as well.

"I like what I do here. I have to have a wider view since my first responsibility is to be an educator," Thornton said.

Thornton is happiest when he has rewarding students to work with.

"Talent's a big thing, but more important is energy, enthusiasm and a seeking nature, the desire to understand and know more. When you have genuinely dedicated people, that's exciting," Thornton said.

Baby love:

Males express opinions on teen pregnancy

BY NED SACKMAN
Staff Reporter

The day Tracy was accepted at Harvard should have been the best day of her life, but it ended up being one of the worst. It had been her dream to attend the prestigious university since grade school. Now, she had to turn down the acceptance because just a week before she had learned she was pregnant and would have to put off college in order to get a job and raise her coming baby.

According to Planned Parenthood, an agency located on Euclid Ave., this year alone there were 3,000 teenage mothers in Cuyahoga County and over 1 million nationwide.

Also, Planned Parenthood said 90 percent of the babies born to teenage mothers are born out of wedlock. Because there are few unmarried couples who live together, it is almost impossible for the father to spend as much time with the child as the mother does. However, the father is obligated by law to provide some financial support.

"If I was to become a father while still in high school I would help support the mother to the best of my abilities," senior Ian Dole said.

Pregnant mothers have a number of choices to make concerning the impending birth of a child. Students agree that sometimes the pressure of trying to make the grade in school coupled with having a social life is too much, and trying to raise a child on top of all that is downright impossible. For teenage mothers, options such as having their parents raise the child at home, getting an abortion or putting the baby up for adoption once it is born are all alternatives to be considered.

"I would be uncomfortable encouraging anything concerning what the mother should do with her baby," senior Josh Penzer said.

Issues such as abortion and adoption require religious and moral beliefs to be taken into account along with concerns about the mother's future.

Junior Randy Williams was against abortion personally. Williams said maybe adoption was a better choice, but he would support the mother in any decision she made.

When a high school student becomes pregnant, the rest of her life takes an entirely different form. Students agree views of a person may change if others can see she is pregnant.

"[When I see a pregnant student], I just think she made some bad choices," Williams said, adding he would never hold pregnancy against anyone.

Dole also said he would not judge a girl any differently just because she is pregnant. If the situation were right, he would not let this fact stop him from becoming involved with her.

Regardless of whether Tracy decides to go with adoption, abortion or keeping the baby, her life has been drastically changed. Maybe Harvard can wait, maybe not.

Shakerite graphic by Rebecca Marshall

Workin' hard for your money

students share babysitting disasters

"I was babysitting for three little kids, and they had friends sleeping over. They were taking baths when the tub overflowed. I cleaned it up with towels, but it went through the ceiling and broke an overhead light downstairs. I had to call my dad and was really embarrassed when the parents came home."
—Babette Wine, freshman

"While baby-sitting two boys and a girl, I was changing the little boy's diaper. I left the room for a minute and told the sister to watch the boy so he wouldn't fall off the changing table. When I came back, the other boy was in the diaper, smearing it all over the place— on the walls, the sister, the dog. It stunk; it was the nastiest thing I've ever smelled in my life."
—Jenny Mulligan, junior

"I was watching my nephew, and I fixed him some oatmeal. He dumped it all over his head. It was so funny."
—Mary Payne, sophomore

"I was sitting for this seven year old girl, and she decided to experiment while going to the bathroom. She stood up on the toilet and got it everywhere. I sent her to bed and told her parents about it when they came home. When I saw her the next day, she just glared at me."
—Katie Baron, junior

"I was watching this kid, and I let him play outside. He was new to the neighborhood, so I told him not to go too far. When I went out to check on him, he wasn't there. About an hour later, he called. He had managed to walk all the way to Randall Park Mall."
—Erika Midgette, sophomore

"I was watching my little cousin and the little boy next door, Dan, one summer day. I guess they had a crush on each other or something. I let them play in the sandbox together, and Dan gave my cousin a kiss on the cheek. It was so cute."
—Phasha Spencer, sophomore

"I told the little girl, Madeline, that she was such a big girl, but she said 'No I'm not. I'm such a big boy.' I think it was because she had a lot of brothers,"
—Melissa Koch, freshman

"I was babysitting these kids in a really big house and went to check on some cookies I was baking. I got lost while trying to find the kitchen, and I couldn't find where I had left the kids."
—Phasha Spensor, sophomore

"I was babysitting for the first time; we were locked out of the house, and it was freezing cold."
—Mollie Folkman

Compiled by Lauren Dicks

Family Ties: from across the sea

BY CAITLIN MASINI
Staff Reporter

Patricia traced her family back to Ireland. They came to America in 1847 during the potato famine. She has no Irish accent and celebrates St. Patrick's Day with pride. Patricia is like other students who traced their roots to various parts of the globe. Some of these students speak multiple languages and celebrate traditions unique to their ethnic backgrounds.

Junior Ruth Fischer has close relatives from Israel, Venezuela, England, France and Hungary and claims citizenship to three.

"I'm a mutt. I have four citizenships: Israel, Venezuela, England and the United States," Fischer said.

She has visited all of these relatives overseas, except those in France, whom she plans to visit next summer. On these trips, Fischer has had a number of interesting experiences.

"An area in Israel got bombed three hours after I left it," Fischer said.

She was also in Venezuela when the government was overthrown, and she saw part of the remains of the Communist regime in Hungary.

Because she has relatives in so many countries, Fischer has had a taste of a number of traditions that have been passed down by her overseas family. In Venezuela they celebrate "Sweet Fifteen," so Fischer considered that her big birthday instead of the American "Sweet Sixteen."

Not only does Fischer have relatives abroad, her immediate family also claims heritage from foreign countries.

"If you put every member of my immediate family where they were born, we would all be thousands of miles apart, except for me and my sister," Fischer said.

Freshman Lene Haga, like Fischer, has relatives in foreign countries, however she has lived in the U.S. for under a year. Haga and her family moved to Shaker from Norway over the summer, and she said she plans to visit Norway for Christmas.

Haga said school here is different from her former school in a number of ways. For example, in Norway, she did not have every subject on a daily basis, her school days were shorter and there were no sports run through the school. Haga said, despite the differences, she has adjusted to Shaker well because people were very friendly to her.

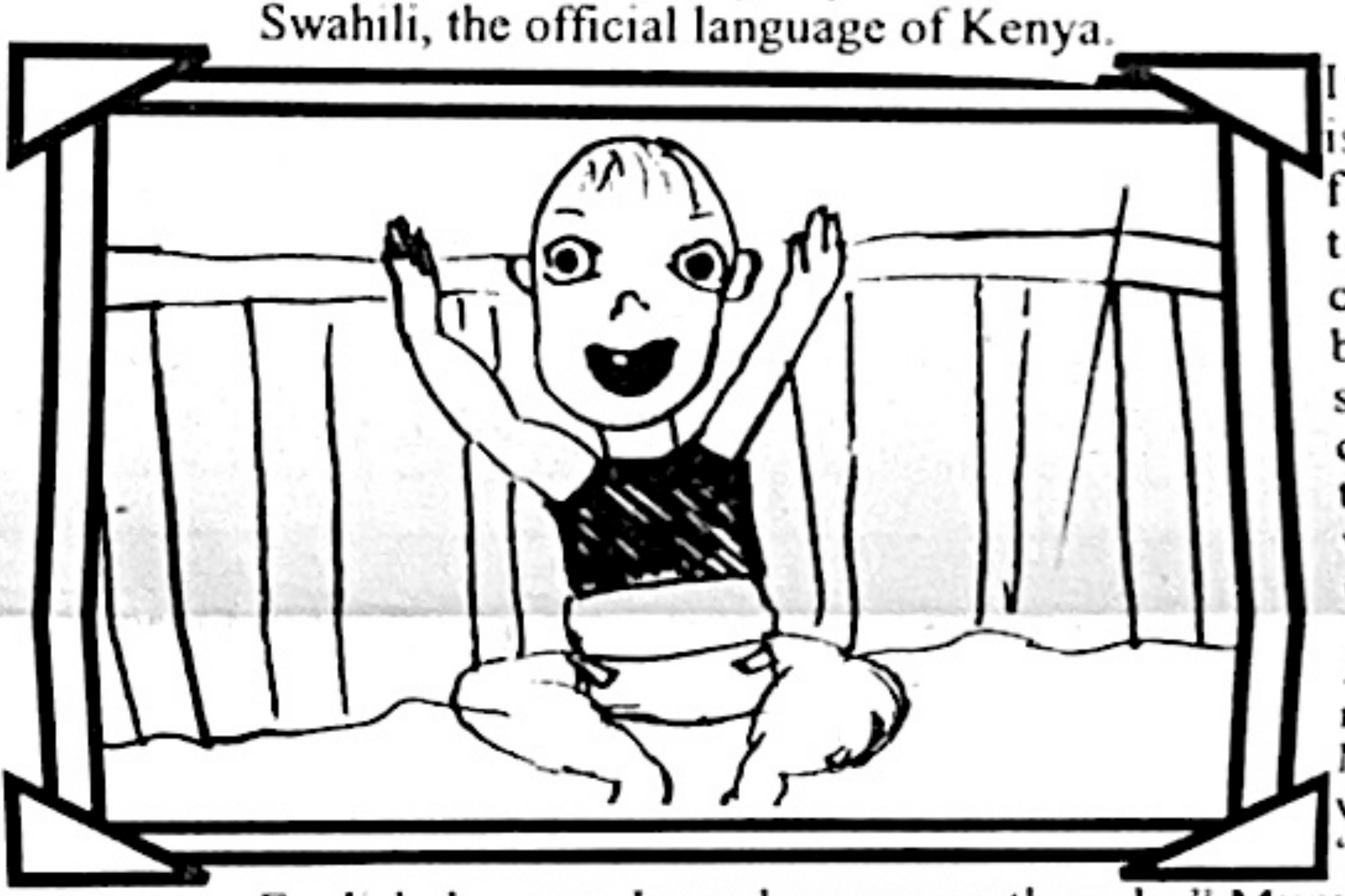
"I didn't have to go up to people and say 'hi.' They came to me [which made adjusting] pretty easy," Haga said.

This year is Delali Dedo's second year in Shaker. Dedo is originally from Togo, Africa, and she still has relatives whom she plans to visit there in about a year. Because she lived in Togo, Dedo said she speaks French and Ewe, an African dialect.

Dedo and her family celebrated many of the same holidays as Americans, including Christmas and New Year's.

Sophomore Jackie Munyasya also has African roots because her father's side of the family lives in Kenya. Munyasya has always lived in the U.S., but she visited Kenya twice when she was younger and stayed for three to four months each time.

Munyasya's father was originally from Kenya. He was raised a Kitui, and he had no running water or indoor plumbing while he was growing up. Most people where her father lived are Christians and speak Kikamba, a dialect of the Kamba tribe. Munyasya speaks a little of both Kikamba and Swahili, the official language of Kenya.



In Kenya it is customary for a father to name his children based on the surroundings or the situation under which the child is born.

"My African name is Munsenya which means 'surprise' in English, because I was born a month early," Munyasya said.

She also said she thinks it is exciting to have cousins in foreign countries, even though communication is difficult.

Patricia's family has come to the United States and blended with the melting pot, however, Irish tradition and customs still thrive in her household.

Shakerite artwork by Katarina Usvitskaya

Semanteme staff sets sights high

BY BILL JACKSON
Staff Reporter

Each spring we see the best of Shaker's writers and artists stand in the spotlight in the school literary magazine, the *Semanteme*.

The poems, short stories and other works published in the magazine are all drawn or written by Shaker students.

Before the staff of the *Semanteme* selects submissions, they must first decide the layout, according to Editor-in-Chief, senior Ethan Hyche.

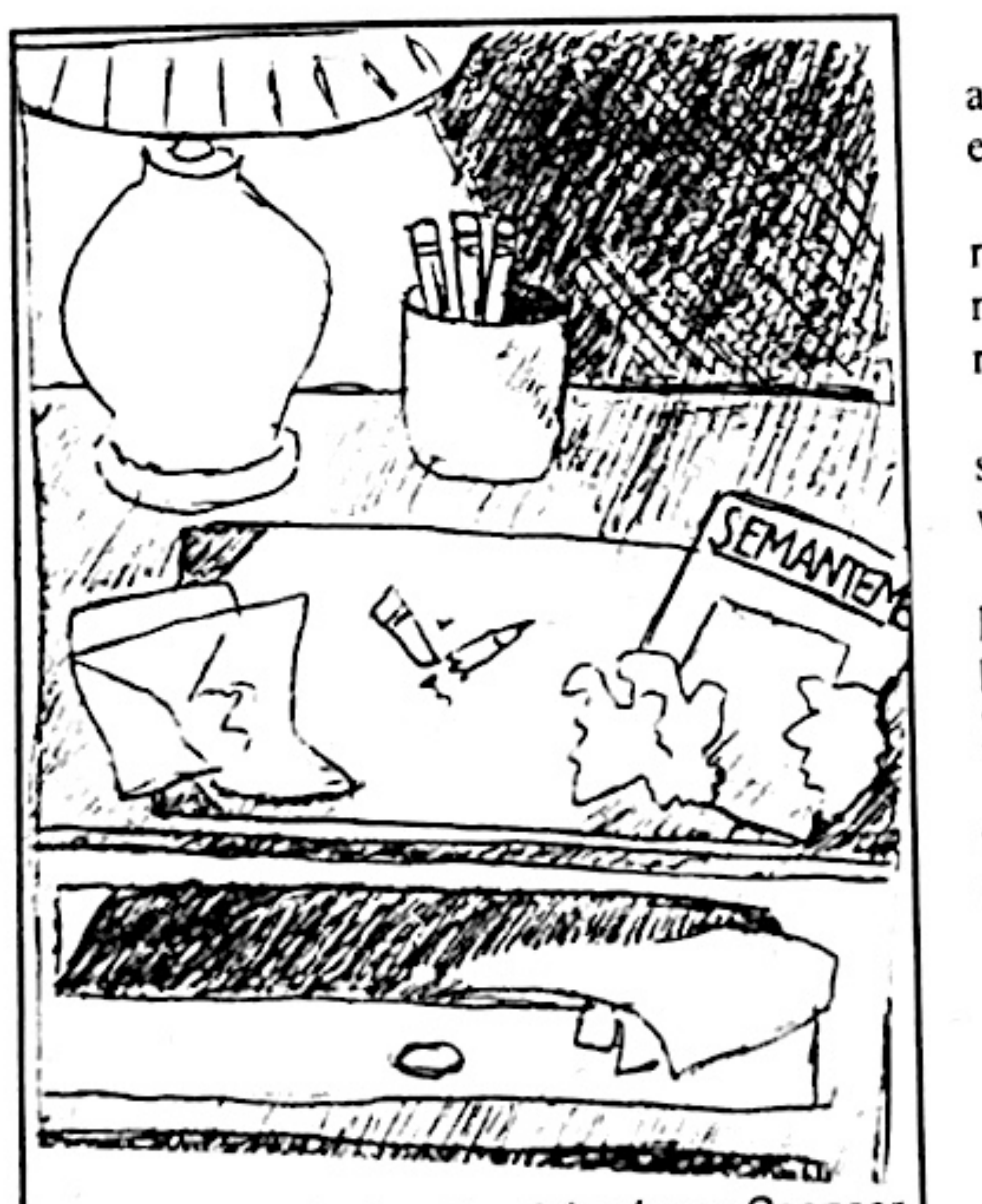
"We spent many of the first meetings looking at old issues deciding what we liked best," Hyche said.

One of the main concerns of the editorial board is deciding the size of this year's issue.

"We are going to decrease the size make it more like a book," Hyche said.

One activity the magazine came up with to increase submissions was to invite poet Sara Holbrook to conduct writing workshops with students after school the week of Nov 6.

Another attempt to increase submissions were the prizes for a poetry contest, which ran until Dec. 1. Prizes for the best submissions include a $20 gift certificate to Borders Books and five free rentals from Blockbuster Video.



Shakerite artwork by Jenny Spencer

Senior Travis Smith thinks the contest was a great incentive for students to submit.

"I've always had the urge to release my creative energies through publication. But I've declined for fear of rejection until the monetary influence persuaded my indecisive mind," Smith said.

According to Hyche, once submissions come in, the staff votes on the best ones to put in the magazine.

One difference from last year is that anonymous submissions will not be accepted.

"If the authors do not have enough respect for their own work to put their name on it, then we do not have enough respect to publish it," Hyche said.

Hyche also said the staff would like to see more artwork to accompany the thirty written works included in the magazine.

Whether or not the artwork will have connection to written material has not been decided yet, art director Suzannah Mathur said.

Mathur, who is a first year member of the Semanteme staff, said she joined so she could see her ideas about design included in the final copy.

"I thought it would be neat to actually see my designs used in the magazine," Mathur, who will probably study design in college, said.

Hyche said he enjoys reading the submissions of his fellow students.

"It is fun to see what all your peers write. Many of the work seems about love, depression and death," Hyche said.

Hyche said he would like to announce the winners of the contest before Winter Break, depending on the amount of admissions received.

The more quality submissions received, the greater the chance the *Semanteme* will be truly better than ever.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
MILES!
Love,
The Shakerite Staff

A TOUCH OF ITALY
16822 Chagrin Blvd. • 991-8282
WE DELIVER • OPEN 7 DAYS

FREE PIZZA
Buy Any Medium Or Large Pizza At Regular Price And Get A SMALL PLAIN PIZZA FREE.
Dine In Or Take Out.
Not Valid With Any Other Offer.
With Coupon. Offer Expires 12-22-95

PIZZA & WINGS SPECIAL NEW $13.95
•Large 1-Item Pizza •16 Wings
•2 Liter Pop (Take-Out) or Pitcher Pop (Dine-In)
Not Valid With Any Other Offer.
With Coupon. Offer Expires 12-22-95

$1.00 OFF ON ANY
MEDIUM, LARGE or X-LARGE PIZZA
Dine In Or Take Out.
Not Valid With Any Other Offer.
With Coupon. Offer Expires 12-22-95

✖ What flies, does magic, and has no name?
An Unidentified Flying Sorcerer

✖ What do you call an expert in mud wrestling?
The Wizard of Ooze

✖ What's made of chicken and rice and is faster than a speeding bullet?
Chicken Soup-erman

✖ What was Chicken Souperman's other name?
Cluck Kent

✖ How do you feel when you have a sore throat and fleas?
Horse and buggy

✖ Why do witches carry cats on their broomsticks?
Because elephants get airsick

Shakerite source: World's Wackiest Riddle Book

Hoopsters have high hopes

BY MATT DANISH
Staff Reporter

Varsity basketball takes to the courts this winter with five returning starters for head coach Bob Wonson.

Three All-League players make up the backcourt for Shaker. Senior DeJuan Goodwin, who led the team in assists with 94 last year, will start at point guard. Senior Jermaine Kimbrough, who averaged 18.6 points a game last year, will start at off-guard. Senior Mike Sims, '94-'95 MVP of the Erie Division, will start at small forward after averaging 22 points a game last year, highest on the team. Two other returning starters, seniors Sean Wright and Aaron Payne, will start at forward and center, respectively.

> *I expect nothing less than states."*
>
> *-Senior DeJuan Goodwin*

The team is coming off a 17-5 season, 11-2 in the Erie Division, which included an Erie Division championship. A team goal is to maintain their championship, which they have held for the past two years.

Wonson said their main opposition in the Erie Division this year will be the Warrensville Tigers.

Shaker also plays teams from the Lake division, such as rival Cleveland Heights, Lakewood and Mentor. Euclid and St. Edward are competitive, non-league games.

Quickness will be the team's method of attack and defense. According to Wonson, there are two game plans in basketball, hang back and trick them or punch them right in the mouth.

"We don't trick them, we punch 'em right in the mouth! We press and run the entire game. We don't run a great offense, we just score a lot of points," Wonson said.

Last years' team led the Cleveland area in scoring by averaging 86.3 points a game.

Several changes have been made to the coaching staff this year. Two new assistant coaches, Sedric Toney and Rob Livingston, are shedding their experience on this varsity team.

Toney played eight years in the NBA, his last with the Cavs, and he now works a "nine to five" at SHHS. He said he feels he has a lot to offer the team.

"I try to be a role model and a coach. I teach from my experience and help these athletes achieve their dreams," Toney said.

Livingston coached at Fairview High School for the past five years. He said he feels the defense is strong this year.

"We get in your face and force action as much as possible," Livingston said.

Leadership is a vital issue this year.

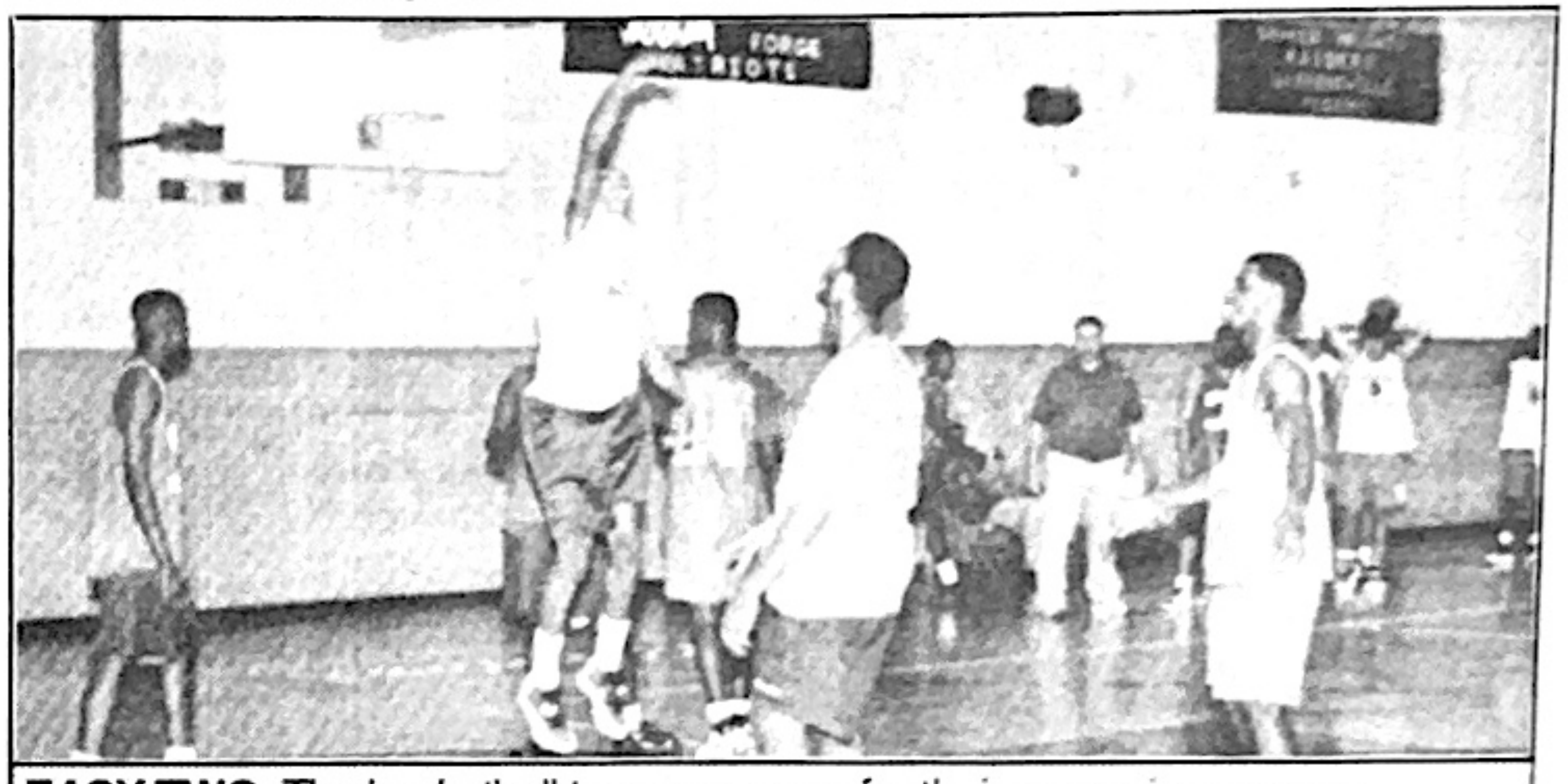
"Seniors must play a leadership role. If we play hard and stick together, we can go to states," Kimbrough said.

Expectations are high, according to Goodwin.

"I expect nothing less than states," Goodwin said.

The team made it to the semi-finals of the District tournament and lost to Glenville last year, but this year the team seems ready to advance further.

A big test for the Raiders will be the North Coast Classic Tournament held at Cleveland State University on Dec. 27. It will be competitive, with teams such as Euclid, Glenville and St. Edwards there to battle it out.



EASY TWO. The basketball team prepares for their upcoming season.
Shakerite photo by Cristen Means

BRENDAN VS. SCOTT

Round 4: Questions about life: Ying or Yang, but more importantly, Ping or Pong?

BY BRENDAN MASINI
Co-Sports Editor

Ping-Pong. Not Pong-Ping, and definitely not Pong-Pong. For centuries this cunning game of skill and intelligence has been referred to with the all important Ping leading the way.

Ping in itself is symbolic of the very soul of the game. It rolls off the tongue with a sharpness of a wicked forehand skillfully placed just on the edge of the table. The concise nature of the word (Ping) paints a mental picture of control, beauty and grace never to be equaled by the much inferior pong.

The argument between these two entities is an old one. Ping has led the way in the name and in followers unopposed until recently when Scott began to believe in the power of Pong which has been traditionally accepted as the weaker half of the name.

As you say "Ping" to yourself several times you will get a grasp on the power that this word creates. Ping. Ping. Ping. It can be used as an insult (Why are you so pingy?), a compliment (That was very pingy of you.) or even as a primordial scream of release from societal constraints (P-i-i-i-i-i-i-i-i-i-i-n-n-n-g!!!). This power and diversity flowing through your arm and paddle are sure to bring crushing overhand slams that will both demoralize your opponent and pay homage to the power of Ping.

You may have shot an imaginary gun and said "Ping" as you pulled the trigger. Or you may associate Ping with a solid hit in a baseball game. There is a reason why this is the sound that is used. Ping is synonymous with victory and domination in all forms of confrontation. Ping-pong is no exception to this rule.

On an imperial level, it was no coincidence that the light saber made a distinct "Ping" sound opposed to the storm troopers whose weaker weapons produced a hollow "pong" sound. To deny yourself Ping is akin to Luke joining Darth Vader on the dark side. It just isn't in your best interests to not respect Ping which indirectly made the universe a free and safe domain.

Ping in and of itself is not useful in the conquering of galaxies or your ping-pong game unless you believe in its power. You must focus on the strength and insight that it can provide in order to crush your opponent. And by the way, Ping, game point, you lose.

Shakerite photos by Cristen Means

BY SCOTT FULLER
Co-Sports Editor

If there is but one thing that can tear Brendan and I from our beloved sports pages, it is a rousing match of ping-pong. Many a time have we shirked our duties in the *Shakerite* office and gone back to one of our houses for a game of the *real* American past time, ping-pong (which obviously we've done a bit too many times considering the pitiful *Brendan vs. Scott* topic we're resorting to). Although the question may sound a bit juvenile and stupid (which indeed it is), there is in fact a solution to this timeless riddle. "What is the sound of one hand clapping?" "If a tree falls in the forest, and no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound?" "Ping or Pong?" While the first two may leave me stupefied, I respond without hesitation to the third: "Pong."

I am not sure why Brendan even wants to play against me any more, because he always loses. There is but one thing I have learned from playing against Brendan (besides the fact that he is stubborn and a horrible ping-pong player). I will guide you through a typical game against him to show you what this discovery is.

"Want to play some pong?" Brendan asks. (Brendan always says "pong", never ping-pong. Though this immediately may seem to make Pong the lesser of the two, in fact "Pong" simply *sounds* cooler, and Brendan was always one to think he was cool).

"Are you sure?" I say, not smiling, but my voice dripping with sarcasm. Brendan glares angrily at me.

I graciously allow Brendan to serve first. "ping!" He taps it weakly across the net. "PONG!!!!!" I slam the ball back across the net...0-1.

Brendan serves again. "ping!" It hangs high in the air, as though suspended by an invisible string. "PONG!!!!!" I hammer it back across. Brendan is hopeless... 0-2. Poor fellow, he must be embarrassed.

Brendan is not at all happy. Rather than face the wrath of Pong, he "accidentally" serves it into the net... 0-3. His frustration is understandable.

And so the game continues, "ping," "PONG!!!!!" "ping" "PONG!!!!!" "ping" PONG!!!!!" Though I am not having too much fun, and certainly Brendan isn't either, I have learned that "Pong" is unquestionably superior to "ping." An even more puzzling riddle remains, however.

Why can't we resist this game?

Yeah Cleveland! Local sports leave their mark on students

BY GEOFF DIETRICH
Staff Reporter

Cleveland is in the unique position of having three professional sports teams. It is also unique in that none of them have dominated the leagues in which they play, and yet no one has ever doubted the city's fan support.

The Indians have not won a World Series in almost 50 years, the Browns have never appeared in a Super Bowl and the Cavs have never reached the NBA Finals. Even Cleveland's semiprofessional teams, the Crunch and the Lumberjacks, have not had much success, with the exception of the Crunch's championship two seasons ago.

At the high school, Cleveland sports have varying effects on students. Much support was shown toward the Tribe due to their recent success, but other teams have not produced the same emotions.

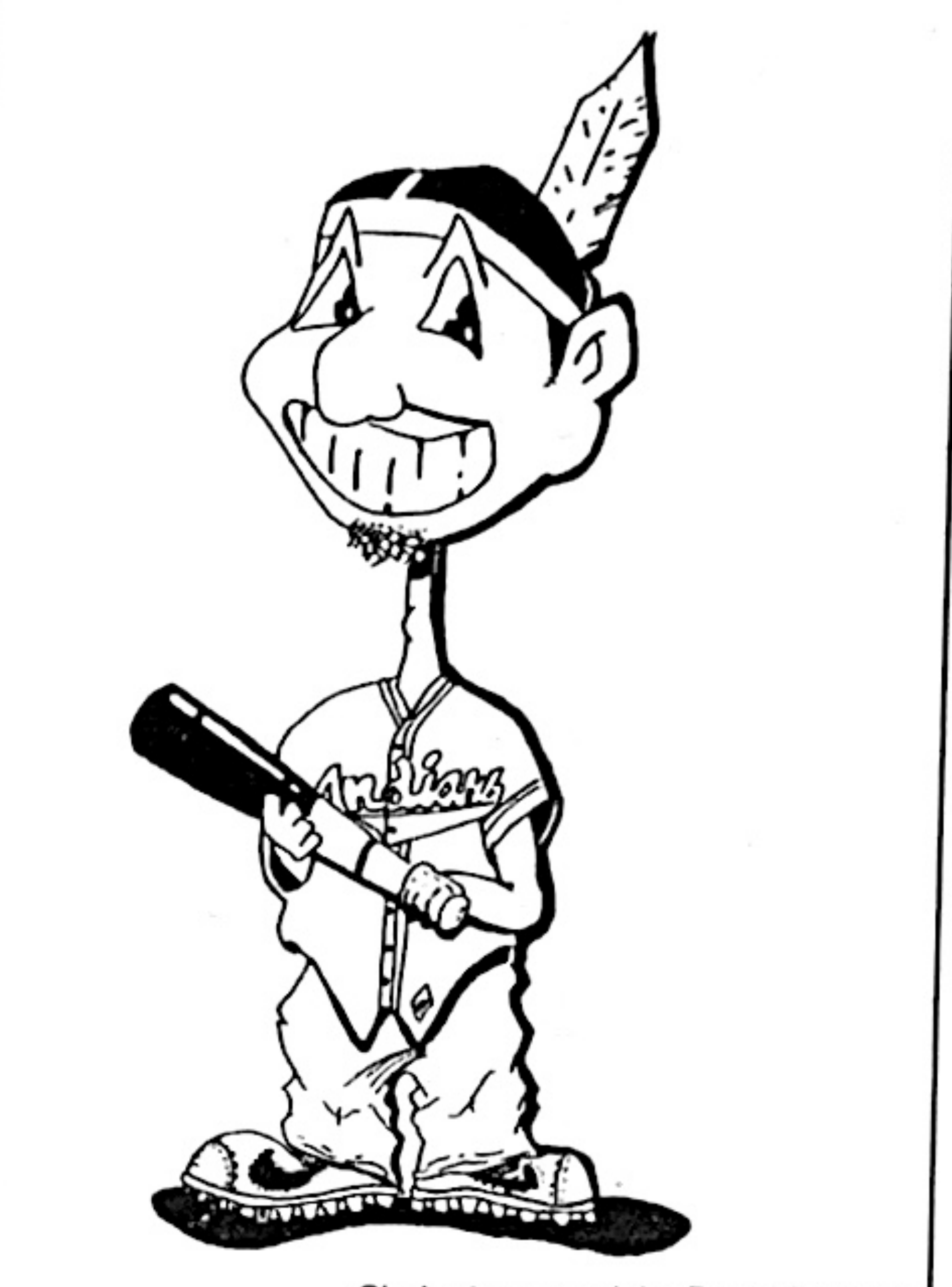
The excitement generated by the Indians' recent American League Championship affected many high school fans. Along with staying out late for games and cutting school for rallies, some activities were even condoned and organized by the school administration, including an Indians Hat Day and the participation of the band in the post-World Series "Victory" parade.

While the Tribe will return for another season, the same cannot be said for the Browns. Owner Art Modell has decided money is more important than moral obligation and feels fan support is not good enough to warrant his staying in town. The Browns' announcement of their move to Baltimore has pushed many students to despise their once beloved Browns.

"It's disappointing that a team so admired by this city and state can be so insensitive to its fans. I just can't believe Art is moving," sophomore Trenton Marsh said.

The Browns currently hold a losing record, and this disappointing season has made fans even more upset.

"You would think that if we were going to leave, we could at least go out with a bang. But Art can't even manage that," junior Graham Lanz said.



Shakerite artwork by David Roberts

As the finality of the baseball season begins to set in and the dynasty of the Browns comes closer to its end in Cleveland, the NBA season is just beginning. Unfortunately, the Cavaliers lost their first seven games, scaring students from the team's bandwagon. If there is any gleam of hope, it's the development of rookies Bob Sura and Donny Marshall.

"I knew this season would be tough with our lack of experience. We do have a lot of talent, though, and we will make progress. Look forward for us to make a run late in the season," freshman Donnell Boyer said.

This run may already have begun, as they have won several games recently.

Two of the less recognized teams in Cleveland are the Crunch and the Lumberjacks, both semiprofessional teams. While students regard them as unimportant, that is if they speak of them at all, it's hard to believe these two teams could be as successful as the Indians.

"[The semiprofessional teams are] not even worth cheering for. It is almost as if they don't even exist," sophomore Ricardo Spicer said.

The Crunch are presently the best team in the National Professional Soccer League and are leading the American Division. They became the first team in 47 years of Cleveland history to win a championship when they did so in the '93-'94 season. Most students, however, still regard the championship as unimportant.

Another less popular sports team at the high school is the Lumberjacks. This minor league team has very little, if any, effect on students. The Lumberjacks, however, are currently atop the Central Division of the International Hockey League.

The amount of interest in Cleveland sports varies from student to student. Sports play an important role in the majority of students' lives. There may be a lack of interest in semipro teams but it is matched by an outright support of the city's professional ones.

Sports and attendance at games are important to many individuals, and to the city itself. The high school is no exception.

Raiders of the Month

BY TOM GELEHRTER
Staff Reporter

Dedication and mental toughness make junior Bryan Wamsley one of the best long distance swimmers in Northeast Ohio.

BRYAN WAMSLEY

Shakerite photo by Cristen Means

Wamsley is the fastest 200 and 500-yard freestyler on the swim team. Last season he finished fifth in both events at the district swim meet. At the state meet he finished 12th in the 500-yard freestyle. His accomplishments last season earned him All-Lake Erie League honors for the second straight year.

Coach Ernest Welsch said Wamsley is one of the most dedicated swimmers he has ever had.

"Bryan is a pleasure to coach. He is aggressive and has a very good attitude," Welsch said.

Last season Wamsley earned the award for the swimmer with the most heart. Welsch annually gives this award to the swimmer that has the greatest combination of attendance, performance at meets relative to times, and attitude towards practice and meets. Wamsley has received this award the past two seasons.

Due to the departure of seniors and Wamsley's increased swimming speed, he is expected to finish in the top three at districts and the top eight at states in the 500 and 200-yard freestyle swims.

Wamsley was featured as a swimmer to watch in the men's swimming feature which ran two weeks ago in *The Plain Dealer*. His past success and future expectations have helped lead the men's swim team to their current top ranking in all of Northeast Ohio.

Wamsley started swimming competitively six years ago for the swimming club Shaker Sharks. Not many swimmers have defeated him since.

"If you are planning on beating [Wamsley], you are going to have to bust your butt, or you have absolutely no chance," Welsch said.

Although at times practices are very rough and tiring, Wamsley stays with the sport. He said the reason he continues to swim is because he knows there is always something more to be accomplished.

"I know that if I keep training hard I will drop my times," Wamsley said. "I know that every year I am going to go faster."

Wamsley also believes concentration is critical during his races.

"I have to concentrate on going all out with perfect strokes and turns," he said. "I can't afford to give anything to anybody."

BY EMILY HOFFMAN
Staff Reporter

A dedicated and talented swimmer, senior Carla Chokel is a valuable member of this year's swim team.

CARLA CHOKEL

Shakerite photo by Cristen Means

"Carla is a really positive influence in and out of the water. Her enthusiasm and talent make her one of the best leaders that the Shaker team has ever had," senior Erin McCourt said.

Chokel has been swimming since she was five years old. She began swimming competitively at age nine. She said not swimming has never been an option.

"[Swimming] kind of picked me. I got into it when I was younger, and I got sucked in. I couldn't get out of it, even if I tried," Chokel said. Smiling, she added, "I wouldn't want to."

Swimming is a big part of Chokel's life. She devotes about 20 hours a week to it, between practices, dry land conditioning and meets on the weekends. Many of her friends are also on the team.

"My best friends are all on the team. They are like my brothers and sisters," Chokel said.

She said she feels a combination of time spent together and sharing the tough workouts has brought the team together.

"The swim team is very much a family. We are so close. You can't find it in any other sport," Chokel said.

Chokel swims breaststroke for the team. However, junior Lauren Neuchterlein said Chokel gives all her effort no matter what the event.

"Even when it's something she's not good at she always tries her hardest and never gives up," Neuchterlein said.

Chokel has competed in the state tournament for two years and has also gone to Junior Nationals twice. She is extremely modest yet admits she is a fast swimmer and does add skill to the team.

"I do score points for them, but we have strong people in every event. Everyone is really dedicated," Chokel said.

She is extremely excited about the team's chances this year, after the girls won their first ever district title last year. She thinks they have a chance at being first in the state tournament, but is more confident they will be in the top three.

As for her own future, Chokel looks forward to swimming in college.

"I want to continue to swim throughout my whole life," Chokel said.

Although the future seems bright, Chokel still has one final wish:

"Come to our meets!"

Hockey starts with a bang

BY LEIGH STEVENS
Co-Sports Editor

The weather has turned cold, the snow has begun to fall and the hockey players have laced up their skates for another season of play.

This year's team has12 returning players. The first line is still indefinite.

"We are trying to balance the lines out so that we can spread the talent out. We want to put the inexperienced players with the veterans," coach Michael Bartley said.

This year's team have a few players with a lot of playing expierence.

"The team has a lot of potential. We have many unexperienced players, and some experienced players. The team has to work on playing in sync," Bartley said.

This year's team captains are seniors Mike O'Loughlin and Matt Danish. Senior Chris Wallace is alternate captain.

The team opened their season at the annual Thanksgiving Tournament. The team's record at the tournament was 1-3.

"I was disappointed with the losses at the tournament, but we remained in the games at all times. I think that our record will better reflect our playing ability during regular season play," senior David Forker said.

The hockey players are looking forward to a great season, and they hope to receive a lot of fan support.

"We are looking for the fans to come out in numbers this year. We play better when there is a croud cheering us on," senior Nick Agopian said.

The players are not the only ones looking forward to an exciting season. The faithful fans are looking forward to watching the team and their friends in action again.

"Most of my friends are on the hockey team, and I enjoy cheering them on," senior Tonia Porras said.

The team showed fans a glimpse of what was to come at their home opener on Dec. 1. The game was called in the third period because of the ten point rule. The team showed the fans the season will be an exciting one.

HIT 'EM! Senior David Forker fights for the puck in an exhibition game against Findlay.

Shakerite photo by Leigh Stevens

RED RAIDER WRAP UP

Men's Basketball

RECORD: 2-0

Upcoming: 6 p.m. Fri. night at Valley Forge

♦ Shooting for third straight Erie Division Championship

♦ Starting five returning

Men's Swimming

RECORD: 2-0

Upcoming: 7 p.m. Fri. night at Valley Forge

♦ Top ranked team in Northeast Ohio

♦ Favored to win sixth consecutive LEL title

Women's Basketball

RECORD: 1-2

Upcoming: At home Wed. night vs. Parma

♦ Only two seniors on squad: Niesha Jarvis and Ayesha Claytor

♦ New coaching staff

Women's Swimming

RECORD: 2-0

Upcoming: 7 p.m. Fri. night at Valley Forge

♦ Favored to win 10th consecutive LEL title

♦ Seven state qualifiers returning this year

Ice Hockey

RECORD: 1-1

Upcoming: Thornton Park tournament Thurs.-Sun.

♦ O'Loughlin, Mears, Schwarz score hat tricks in home opener

♦ 12 returning players

Wrestling

RECORD: 0-0

Upcoming: Richmond Hts. tournament Fri.-Sat.

♦ State qualifiers Ben and Josh Greenspan, district qualifiers Sharpley and Durden returning

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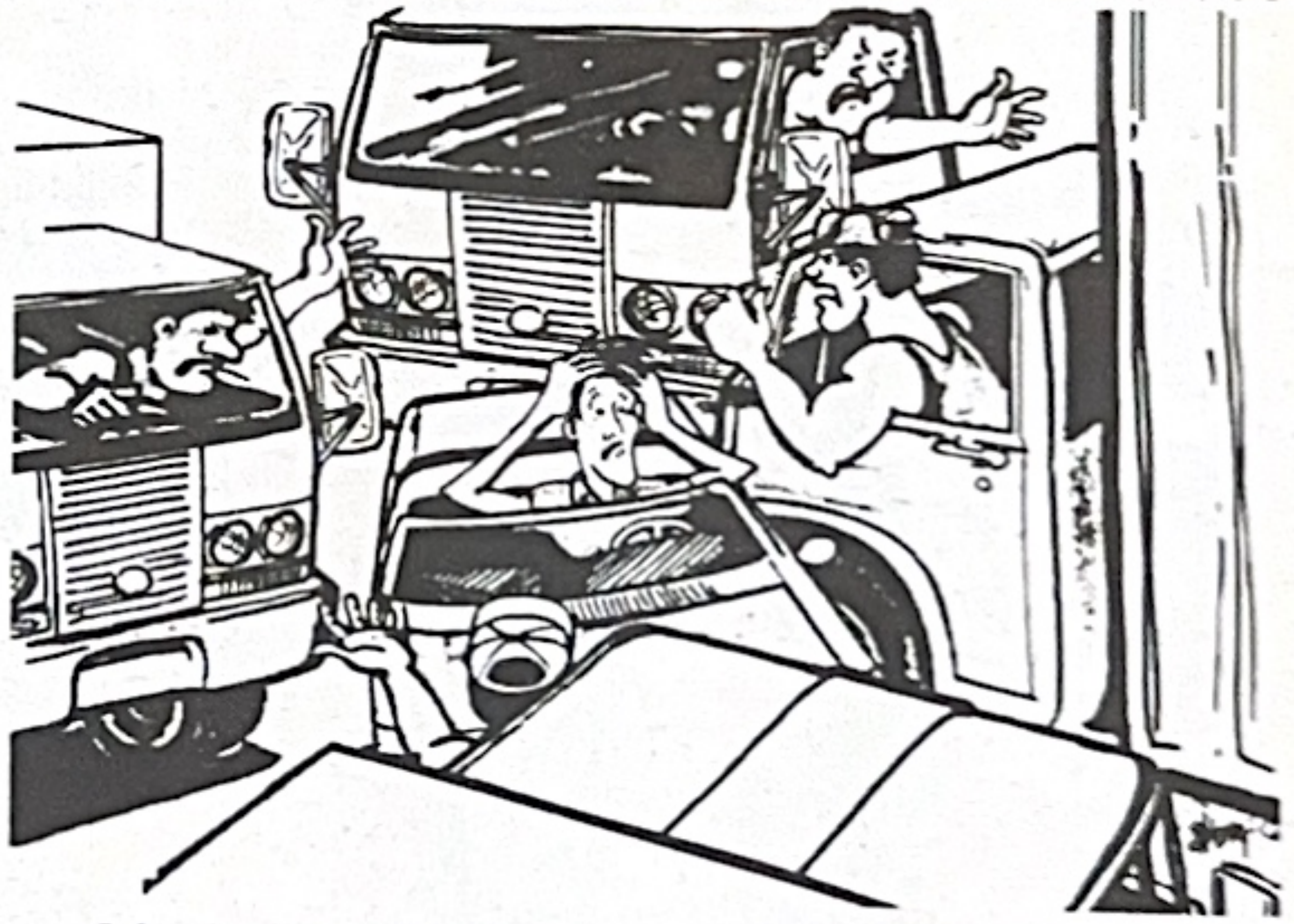

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